

## Ryzhkov trails in Russian election

## Yeltsin heads for victory on first ballot

FROM MARY DEJEVSKY IN MOSCOW

BORIS Yeltsin, scourge of the Soviet Union's communist party machine and the country's first genuinely populist politician, was last night on course for a convincing victory in the Russian Federation's historic presidential election.

Initial results suggested that he could gain the 50 per cent vote necessary for a first-ballot victory that would strengthen his position in the competition for influence in the new-style Soviet Union.

Official results will not be released until Monday, but reports from the far east of the republic last night gave Mr Yeltsin between 49 and 55 per cent of the vote. His showing is expected to improve as results come in from the industrial cities of the Urals and the radical bastions of Moscow and Leningrad.

The former Soviet prime minister Nikolai Ryzhkov was said to be taking 22 to 23 per cent of the vote, with his support holding up well in the countryside, where there are fears that Mr Yeltsin will allow sales of agricultural land and dispossess the peasants.

The other four candidates appeared to be far behind, although Vladimir Zhirinovskiy, a lawyer who heads the new Liberal Democratic Party, seemed to have attracted surprisingly strong support with his forceful advocacy of political discipline coupled with economic freedom. In some areas, he was reported to have overtaken Mr Ryzhkov and the former interior minister Vadim Bakatin to take second place.

Mr Yeltsin was almost mobbed by a vast crowd chanting "Yeltsin, Yeltsin" as he made his way from his black limousine to the polling station yesterday. In words he clearly hopes will set the tone of his presidency, he declared: "Russia will not be so poor, so humiliated, so abused as it is today. It will be sovereign within the union." Like Mr Ryzhkov, Mr Yeltsin emphasised his readiness and ability to work with President Gorbachev and the Soviet leadership. He described his relations with Mr Gorbachev as "businesslike and low-key" and said a good balance of power had emerged.

Mr Gorbachev, who voted in the Lenin Hills suburb, told reporters that he was prepared to cooperate with anyone the Russians elect. "There will be no problems on my side on that count. Too much is at stake to mix politics with personal feelings."

The Soviet leadership will scrutinise the results carefully for signs of the popular mood in the republic that is home to 104 million of the country's 200 million voters.

Mr Gorbachev has a record of trying to work with the grain of public opinion and the Russian presidential election, contested by six candidates of widely differing political complexion, is the first real test of the balance of political forces in a rapidly-changing country.

Mr Yeltsin's backers had feared that complacency and election fatigue might keep voters away, but turnout registered at between 70 and 80 per cent in most places. While many city dwellers took the opportunity of the public holiday to spend the day in the countryside, most voted first.

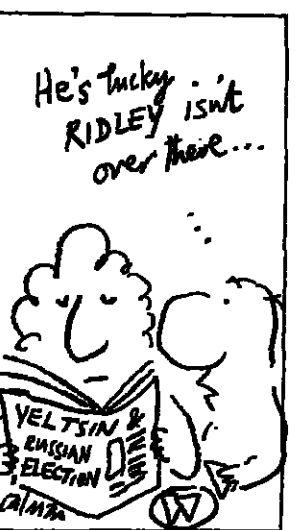
As polling proceeded, reports reached Moscow of diverse violations, including the use of unverified ballot

papers, the refusal of certain military camps to admit observers, and campaign broadcasts on polling day. On the eve of poll, Yeltsin supporters claimed that the Ryzhkov team had promised peasants in some areas sugar, flour and vodka if they supported the former prime minister. A similar allegation had earlier been investigated and declared untrue by Mr Ryzhkov's campaign manager.

In Moscow and Leningrad, elections were held simultaneously for the city's mayors, with the incumbents, Gavril Popov and Anatoli Sobchak, expected to win easily. Leningrad also held a referendum on whether the city's name should revert to St Petersburg. Opinion on the name change was said to be finely balanced. Those in favour of returning to St Petersburg included radical politicians, artists, church figures and monarchists, while communists and older people invoking the memory of the Nazi siege voted to keep Leningrad.

The only part of the Russian Federation not to hold full presidential elections yesterday was the former Tatar Autonomous Republic, now called Tatarstan, where nationalists are campaigning to have the region withdraw from the Russian Federation and become a fully-fledged republic within the Soviet Union. Preliminary figures suggested that twice as many were voting in the Tatar presidential election as for a Russian leader.

Holiday mood, page 14



## Labour hurries into by-election battle

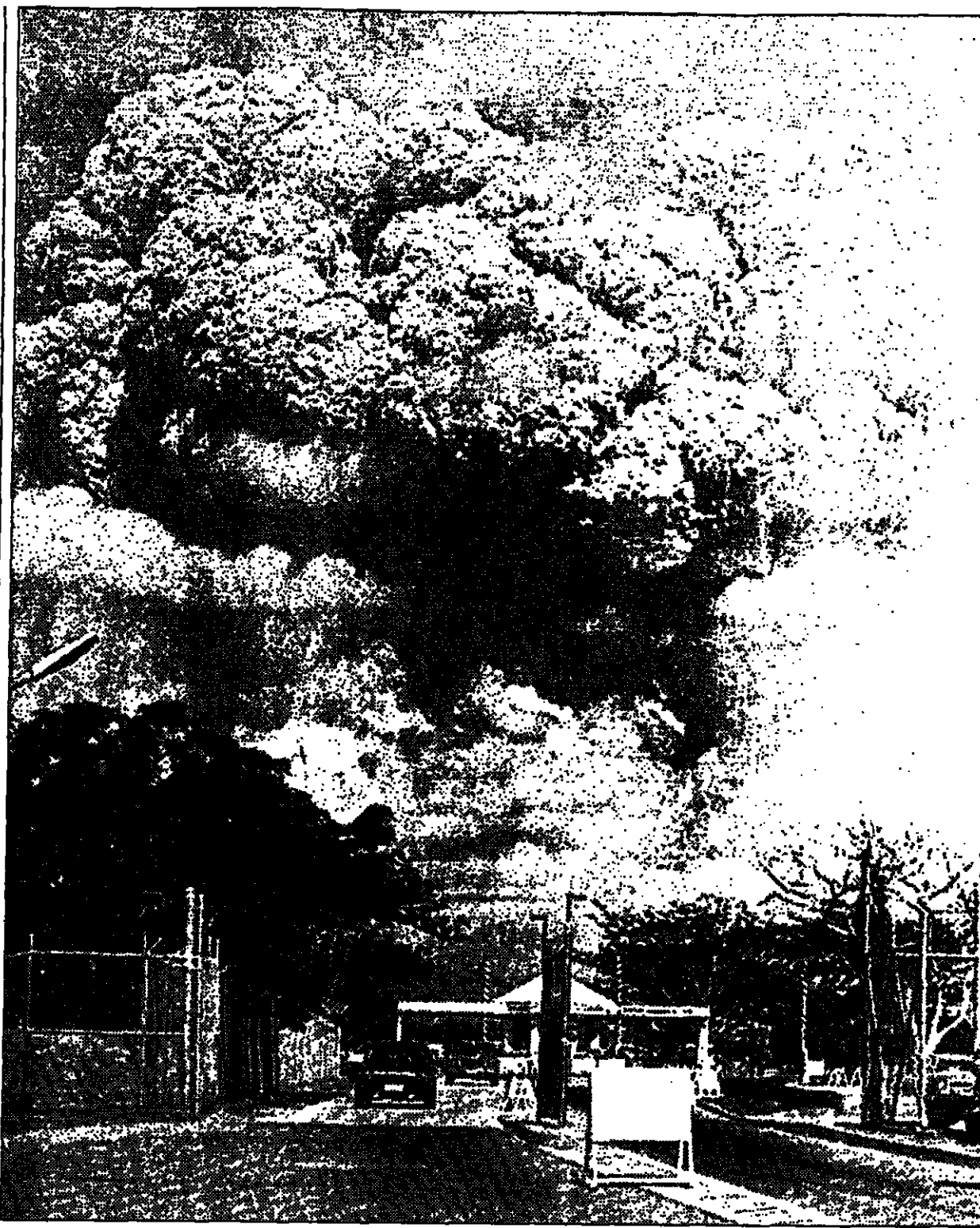
By PHILIP WEBSTER, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Labour leadership has decided on the earliest possible confrontation with its Militant Tendency foes in Liverpool.

Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, and his senior colleagues decided yesterday to bring forward the Liverpool Walton by-election to July 4, a week earlier than had been planned only last weekend.

A writ signalling the start of what is likely to be a rough contest will be moved in the Commons today, as Labour moves to conclude as soon as possible a battle that will undoubtedly be exploited by

its opponents. An array of shadow cabinet figures, probably including Mr Kinnock himself, will go to the constituency as the Labour leadership tries to make the best of the challenge to its official candidate by Lesley Mah-mood, the Broad Left choice. The decision of the Broad Left to come out into the open has been welcomed by Labour. It will present the contest as the culmination of its long-running battle against Militant, and also use it to maintain its campaigning momentum on the health service and other issues.



Volcanic fury: Mount Pinatubo erupts shooting a thick mushroom of ash over the Clark Air Base in the Philippines

## Volcano eruption threatens US base

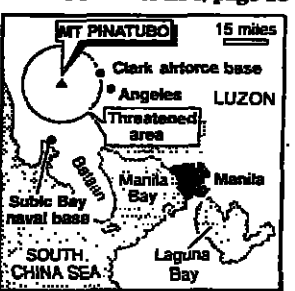
By VAUDINE ENGLAND IN MANILA AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

TENS of thousands of Filipinos fled in panic and the United States Clark Air Base, the nerve centre of American operations in the Pacific, was evacuated yesterday as Mount Pinatubo erupted in a series of thundering explosions over 20 hours, shooting a giant plume of ash more than 15 miles high and raining down a deadly cascade of molten rock.

Residents from the nearby Angeles City jammed roads as the volcano's huge gray-greenish mushroom cloud virtually blocked out the sun. The skies were dark as night and the roads and countryside were covered with ash. Those fleeing were stripped to the waist and their heads were covered with scarves to cope with the heat and falling ash.

A Filipino serving with the US Navy died when his car collided with a bus on an ash-slickened road north of Subic.

Continued on page 24, col 1



New eruption fear, page 10

## Tory MPs back Lamont over European tactics

By ROBIN OAKLEY AND PHILIP WEBSTER

THE government won general backing last night for its tactics in European Community negotiations on a single currency as Tory MPs angrily turned on their colleagues associated with the anti-federalist Bruges Group.

Norman Lamont, the Chancellor, appearing before a meeting of the back-bench European affairs committee, received support for his stance of remaining in the negotiations to win the best possible deal for Britain rather than threatening to wield the veto.

At a meeting that exposed the growing back-bench tensions over Europe, Mr Lamont looked on as MPs criticised the role of the committee chairman, William Cash, who has been closely linked with the Bruges Group. One MP called for Mr Cash's resignation.

With John Major preparing to tell Conservatives tomorrow that Britain cannot afford to be sidelined in Europe, the internal dispute erupted again yesterday. Nicholas Ridley suggested in an article in the London *Evening Standard* that Europe was more important than the unity of the Conservative party.

That led to Sir Geoffrey Howe dismissing Nicholas Ridley and the Bruges Group as being no more important in their hardline attitude to Europe than Enoch Powell had been. "They have always been a small, sincere minority," he said.

At last night's meeting, however, clear signs emerged that most Tory MPs feel that

the internal European battle is getting out of hand. Antony Marlow, MP for Northampton North, who called for Mr Cash's resignation at the meeting, said afterwards: "The chairmanship of the committee is the most sensitive backbench committee at the moment. It requires ability and skill to put forward views of the party as a whole and take the fight to Labour. Many people think that the present chairman of the committee is not fulfilling that role."

The main criticism, however, came from MPs who felt that their colleagues should not be associated with the Bruges Group and its 23-year-old secretary, Patrick Robertson. When Mr Cash pointed out that he was not a member of the group, but of the Friends of the Bruges Group, he was told by Andrew Mackay, MP for Berkshire East, that he was indulging in semantics. Mr Mackay declared that divided parties lost elections and that unless the Bruges Group sacked Mr Robertson, MPs should have nothing to do with it.

Mr Cash defended himself saying that he had spent 40 minutes protesting to the group about Mr Robertson's memorandum, leaked on Tuesday, which criticised the prime minister. After meeting Mr Cash said he did not intend to resign.

Nearly all the 20 speakers at the meeting were reported to have backed the government's line.

Tomorrow, Mr Major is expected to tell the Welsh

## Mr Nice Guy gets tough in the Rose Garden

A newly-tough George Bush has accused Congress of failing his 100-day challenge, reports Peter Stothard

Last night President Bush celebrated his 67th birthday by inviting 1,000 guests to the White House lawn and showing them his new "unkindler, ungentler" face. In an unusual Washington event — part Rose Garden reception, part election rally — he abused Congressional leaders for sloth and corruption.

His opponents had failed, he said, to meet his "100-day challenge", to pass bills on crime and transport policy in as many days as the hours it took General Norman Schwarzkopf to liberate Kuwait. The Democrats, he suggested, were unworthy of the troops who had restored the country's pride in February.

It was a fascinating performance for Republicans who have begun to wonder whether their president may be a changed man after his Gulf victory. "Mr Nice Guy has certainly said farewell," one said, noting that since the war ended Mr Bush has become more self-confident, more impatient, and more demanding of the respect due to his victor's status.

In the past few weeks the president has toured college campuses, making tough partisan speeches which the old Bush would normally have kept for the campaign trail. Last night he seemed to be bringing his new self back home.

When the "100-day" challenge was delivered on March 6 to a joint session of the House of Representatives and Senate, it seemed a mere rhetorical device. Congress took about as much notice of his words as President Saddam Hussein had done. Within only five of the allotted days even Robert Dole, the Senate Republican leader, had publicly dismissed the deadline.

Last week, while Tom

Continued on page 24, col 3

Leading article, page 19

EMU rumpus, page 14

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## TODAY IN THE TIMES

## BIG SPENDERS

The man who blew £8 million on beautiful women? Is Bernard Levin writing about himself again? Only on the face of it Page 18

## HEALTH

Dame Rosemary Rye, BMA president, is cautious about hotel hospitals, a halfway house experiment in health care Page 15

## SPORT

Ian Woosnam, already in possession of a green jacket, goes into today's US Open seeking his second major of the season Page 38

## INSIDE

## Disappearing act

Britain's surplus on invisible trade disappeared when the Central Statistical Office produced a first-quarter estimate in banking and insurance which widened the trade deficit to £2.59 billion from £1.3 billion. Page 21

## Lineker four

Gary Lineker, the England captain, scored all four of England's goals in their victory over Malaysia in Kuala Lumpur yesterday. His haul took him to within four goals of the England record held by Bobby Charlton. Page 40

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## Sheriff in Orkney case criticised by appeal court

By KERRY GILL

THE sheriff who returned the children in the Orkney ritual sex abuse case to their parents was yesterday severely criticised by three judges for the way he conducted the hearing into the abuse allegations.

The judges, upholding an appeal by the authorities in the case, said that Sheriff David Kelbie was wrong to have dismissed early in the proceedings the allegations that the children had been abused. They said that he had breached elementary rules of natural justice and had disqualified himself from any further part in the case.

Sheriff Kelbie, who in April said that the procedures used by the Orkney children's panel had been so fundamentally flawed as to make them incompetent, refused last night to comment on the judges' findings.

The appeal was made on behalf of Gordon Sloan, the acting reporter to the Orkney children's panel. After the judgment Mr Sloan left the court in Edinburgh without commenting. The judges, led

by Lord Hope, Lord President of the Court of Session, emphasised that they would not comment on the investigations into the case carried out before it reached the children's hearing system.

Social workers took nine children of four families from their homes on South Ronaldsay in February after allegations of ritual abuse. The children were held on the Scottish mainland for five weeks until their release after Sheriff Kelbie's withering criticism of the panel procedures and the social workers.

Yesterday, however, the judges said that Sheriff Kelbie had been wrong in law to have rejected the case so early in the proceedings. He had given Mr Sloan no opportunity to be heard before delivering his findings. The judges said: "It was said that he was acting according to his conscience but we cannot accept this excuse. It was his duty to conduct the proceedings within the law. The children and their parents were entitled to findings based on proper examination of law and the evidence."

They added: "If he had things to say to the reporter he should have addressed them to counsel in private and not in the presence of the press. He should not have said them in the course of his judgment because by doing so he gave all the authority to his views which went with the performance of his function on the bench. The effect of what he did was incalculable and there is no doubt he disqualified himself from taking any further part in the proceedings."

Last week Mr Sloan said, through his counsel, that all further proceedings would be abandoned. He blamed media publicity for prejudicing the case. Lynda Clark, QC, for Mr Sloan, had argued that the sheriff was wrong to have allowed journalists into the hearing at Kirkwall sheriff court. The judges, however, said that Sheriff Kelbie was entitled to let them attend.

Helen Martini, of the South Ronaldsay parents' action committee, said that the judgment highlighted the failings of the system. "If it [the case] before the sheriff had gone on listening to evidence, how many more weeks would they have been away? I am sure the end result would have been the same."

A date will now be set for the judicial enquiry into the Orkney affair ordered by Ian Lang, the Scottish secretary. Ron Gilbert, chief executive of Orkney council, said: "We now look forward to a wide-ranging judicial enquiry, which we hope will give council employees the opportunity to explain their actions and the reasons they carried them out." One of the parents said last night that they hoped that the enquiry would be broad enough to examine all the evidence and allegations.



Corks away: Captain Hames celebrates with Joanna Lumley in London yesterday

## Imbert questions the right to march

By STEWART TENDLER, CRIME CORRESPONDENT

PUBLIC order legislation should be reformed to protect communities from the "malign provocation" of marches by racial extremists, Sir Peter Imbert, the commissioner of the Metropolitan police, said yesterday.

At the launch of his annual report for 1990, Sir Peter said that it was frustrating for police trying to maintain peace in a multi-racial area to see their work thwarted by a few who insisted on marching through a community and "laying it under siege from within". He believed that the time might have come to examine the balance between the right to march and the rights of a community.

Sir Peter said that police considered applying for a ban on the march by the British National Party last month in Thamesmead, south London. However, the law required the police to show that there was a risk of grave and widespread disorder and they would be unable to control the event. Such requirements would have been difficult to satisfy.

"What we have to do," he said, "is consider the lasting effects of that intrusion into that particular area by people who are there mainly with the apparent intent of provoking the people of that area." The reason for seeking a ban should include not only the disorder on the day, but the long-term consequences.

Commenting on figures for crimes recorded by London police last year, which showed an increase of 10 per cent in 1989, Sir Peter said it was vital that the public understood the full context of the figures. Fear of crime was as bad as crime itself, and the media had an important role to play in its reduction. He said that crime statistics measured the productivity of criminals.

Clear-up figures, which reached record levels last year at 141,700 against a recorded total of 834,000, showed police productivity.

The commissioner said: "We wish to transfer the fear of crime from the victim to the criminal." He made a plea for greater media responsibility, criticising reporting in yesterday's *Today* newspaper, linked to a series by TV-am on crime in Britain, and the trailer used for the television series. The newspaper highlighted a survey showing that seven out of ten women expected to be attacked in the next year. The TV-AM trailer, he said, used pictures of a woman walking through a dark alley with an attacker about to pounce, which wrongly raised the fear of crime.

"If seven out of ten women expected to be attacked that is totally and utterly out of synchronisation with the true facts," Sir Peter said. Less than 1 per cent of all offences were sex offences, and in half the rape or sexual offences committed against women the attacker was known to the victim. The people most likely to be attacked on the streets were young men aged between 17 and their late 20s.

TV-am said the series concerned matters of interest to the station's audience and was not alarmist. "The series has been very carefully researched and is very balanced."

Sir Peter's report showed that London police and civilian pay and pensions cost the force £1,035 million in 1989-90 out of a total expenditure of £1,289 million. Last year patrolling London's streets cost £406 million, while CID work cost £244 million and traffic work £103 million.

Race relations, page 5



Sir Peter: "Police efforts thwarted by racists intent on malign provocation"

## Anti-crime schemes by local councils proposed

By QUENTIN COWDRY, HOME AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

A WORKING party appointed by the Home Office is expected to recommend that local authorities should be required by statute to devise crime prevention strategies, a proposal advocated by Labour for many years.

The profusion of community anti-crime schemes since the mid-Eighties risks being undermined by funding difficulties and confusion over who should lead them, according to the working party, which will report to ministers this month. It will call for a statutory duty requiring councils to design preventive strategies with police and to make sure that they are effectively implemented.

The report, due to be published in September, stops short of recommending that crime prevention should become a main council responsibility backed by government, but says that councils should have discretionary powers to pay for anti-crime schemes.

Labour will also derive satisfaction from the working party's recommendation that

local schemes should be overseen by a Whitehall unit, probably based outside the Home Office. The working party, chaired by James Morgan, a management consultant, will be tactfully vague about precisely where the unit should be based and whether its members should be exclusively civil servants.

However, the call is likely to be seen by Roy Hattersley, the shadow home secretary, as endorsing Labour's proposal for a crime prevention council made up of civil servants and senior representatives of criminal justice agencies, such as the police and probation service. Such a council would co-ordinate Whitehall crime prevention work, commission research and provide guidance to local authorities.

The report's proposal for a statutory crime prevention duty will, however, be the cause of the biggest tremors in the Home Office. While ministers have been content to see some local authorities spearhead crime prevention strategies, they have been chary of encouraging all councils to take the lead. Labour says it is

because the Tories are fundamentally hostile to local government, but the government believes prescribing a rigid framework will stifle local initiative.

Mr Morgan declined to discuss the report's recommendations in detail, but said that the working party believed that there had to be a further big expansion in crime prevention. "What is blindingly obvious is that the resources which go into this area are minuscule compared with the sums spent on catching and punishing criminals," he said. "And the offences dealt with by the criminal justice system represent less than half of those even reported to the police."

The working party was set up in May last year to examine the effectiveness of local multi-agency approaches to crime prevention. Its members include David Shattock, chief constable of Avon and Somerset, Richard Penn, chief executive of Bradford city council, and Helen Edwards, a senior official of the National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders.

## Lack of regular revaluations 'will discredit new tax'

By DOUGLAS BROOM, LOCAL GOVERNMENT CORRESPONDENT

THE new council tax will become "as discredited as the rates" unless the government agrees to regular property revaluations, the leader of Britain's chartered surveyors said yesterday.

Michael Pattison, secretary general of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, said that there were "major shortcomings" in the government's plans for the new tax, due to replace the community charge in 1993.

Although it would be possible to introduce the tax on time, the problems must be remedied before the tax was introduced, he said. These included the government's refusal to sanction regular property revaluations.

Mr Pattison's warning came less than 24 hours after the Audit Commission said that the system of local government finance proposed to accompany the council tax, would prove "unsustainable in the long term".

Both bodies called for changes to the plans before the planned introduction of the

new tax. However, Michael Heseltine, the environment secretary, rejected the criticism yesterday.

Speaking on Radio 4's *The World at One*, he said it was "rubbish" to suggest the council tax could not be introduced by 1993.

Mr Pattison, 4,000 of whose members in estate agents' offices throughout Britain will be used to help to value properties for the new tax, said: "The tax base must be updated regularly. The government says it will not be necessary. The government is wrong."

"The government thinks that the seven bands will provide a permanent grid of the relative values of our 22 million homes. The fact is that relative values are one of the most volatile aspects of domestic property prices. If this is not addressed, the council tax will become as discredited as the rates."

He added: "Valuations will look like a bureaucrat's capricious decision and the tax will not be seen as a fair charge based on the value of a person's home. The government seems to be closing its eyes to the requirement to update bands and the values of properties. That is a tragedy."

"For the first time for years, the government is trying to bring in a local tax which relates to something which everyone can understand - the value of the place where they live."

Mr Pattison added: "If the government fails to keep values up to date so that the tax base gets out of date, that is the quickest possible route to a discredited tax. The institute believed revaluations should be done every five years."

The environment department said last night that it still saw no need to carry out regular revaluations. A spokesman said: "Properties will be placed in bands and will remain there. The only time that a person will change tax band is when they move to another property."

## Police denied TV play preview

By MICHAEL HORSNELL

A REQUEST by police to view unscreened episodes of Alan Bleasdale's political drama *GBH* has been rejected by Channel 4. Police considered the series might prejudice the forthcoming trial of Derek Hatton for conspiracy to defraud ratepayers.

Fraud squad officers from Merseyside asked to see the rest of the series after the former Militant deputy leader of Liverpool city council expressed concern.

However, police are understood to be satisfied after talking to Channel 4 that *GBH* will not mirror allegations against Mr Hatton, aged 43. The Crown Prosecution Service said yesterday that it intends to take no action.

Mr Hatton claims that the central character, a ruthlessly ambitious council boss, Michael Murray, is an exaggerated portrayal of himself. He warned that he and his legal advisers will watch the remaining episodes and reserve the right to act.

A spokesman for Channel 4 said it had a policy of showing previews only to journalists previewing or reviewing a programme. Its lawyers cleared the drama before screening.

Mr Bleasdale said last night: "It will become clear that Michael Murray bears no relationship to Derek Hatton."

## Labour pledge on inner city

Labour yesterday promised to replace the government's "fragmented and incoherent" policies on inner-city areas with a comprehensive programme for urban renewal. Bryan Gould, the shadow environment secretary, said that Labour would replace the 21 inner-city initiatives launched by the Conservatives since 1979 with one urban regeneration programme. It would involve "no significant additional public spending" because better use would be made of the £887 million in government grants now spent.

## Irradiated food

Food irradiation will begin in Britain within a fortnight after the government said yesterday that it had granted the first licence for the process. Irradiation kills food bugs through bombardment by gamma rays. Isotron, the licence-holder, said stocks of black pepper were awaiting treatment. Many supermarkets say they will not sell irradiated food. Irradiated products must be labelled as such.

## Royal visitor

The Queen officially opened Birmingham's International Convention Centre yesterday and listened in the symphony hall as Simon Rattle and the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra rehearsed music by Mahler. In the afternoon, the Queen formally opened the 97th session of the International Olympic Committee in the city, the first time the committee has met in full session in Britain.

## Fax for farmers

Substantial cuts in the levels of chemicals sprayed on crops are being forecast by the Meteorological Office as a result of a new service it is establishing to advise farmers on the best times to spray. The Weatherfax service sends farmers by facsimile machine forecasts on the optimum conditions for using fungicides, herbicides and pesticides to avoid the need for respraying after wind or rain.

## Cases adjourned

Ten central London stores were summoned to appear at Bow Street magistrates' court yesterday facing prosecution by Westminster council over Sunday trading. All companies held their case adjourned after the referral of the B&Q case by the House of Lords to the European Court in Luxembourg. The Lords sent three questions to Luxembourg in the hope of resolving the issue.

## Army officer returns from Gulf to hit £1.6m jackpot

By RAY CLANCY

AN ARMY captain who returned from duty in the Gulf three weeks ago was yesterday celebrating a win of more than £1.6 million on the pools, the biggest ever individual jackpot.

Captain Ernest Hames, aged 47, who used regiment numbers in his £1.65 stake, received his Littlewoods cheque for £1,638,077 from Joanna Lumley, the actress, on board a yacht at Chelsea harbour, London. His wife Susan and daughter Rebecca, aged 16, helped him toast the family's future with champagne. "I have had 31 marvellous years in the

army, but now I will sit down and think about my future." Captain Hames, who is stationed at Invicta Park Barracks, Maidstone, Kent, said: "Our lives will certainly be changed."

"I am going to buy a new Mercedes and will be taking a holiday with my wife and daughter." However, he said he faced a dilemma over whether or not to leave the army, which he had joined at the age of 16. "It would be a real wrench to go."

He said that, for his winning coupon, he used the numbers of all the regiments in which he has served or

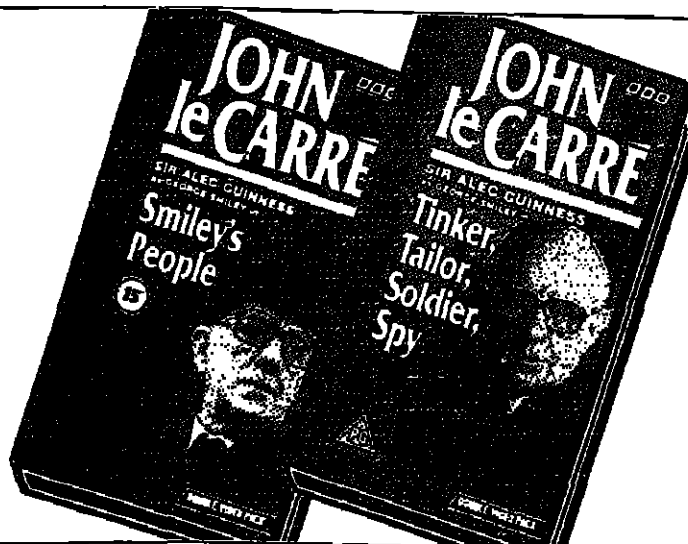
been connected with, plus those of squadrons.

Captain Hames's win was just £8,101 short of the biggest jackpot in history. Last month, Margaret Regan and her daughter Colleen Gooderham won £1,646,108 on the Littlewoods football pools.

Another big pools winner also received his cheque yesterday. Paul Hanford, a former pop star, won £591,098, the biggest jackpot ever with Vernons. Mr Hanford, aged 50, of Bag Enderby, Lincolnshire, received his cheque from Lulu, the singer.

# JOHN leCARRÉ

## ON VIDEO



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# Two convicted of plot to sell nuclear triggers to Iraq

By RAY CLANCY

TWO business executives were found guilty at the Central Criminal Court yesterday of plotting to export illegally to Iraq nuclear detonating devices that could have triggered a bomb.

The detonators did not reach Baghdad because American and British customs

officers replaced them with dummies. Ali Ashour Daghir, aged 49, managing director of Euro-mac, an export sales company based at Thames Ditton, Surrey, who was described during the two-month trial as the mastermind behind the plot, was jailed for five years.

Jeanine Celestine Speckman, aged 41, the company's export manager, was remanded in custody to be sentenced today. A third person, Toufic Fouad Amyuni, aged 38, the company's sales manager, was cleared of the charge of conspiracy to export illegal goods between September 1988 and March 1990.

Judge Denison, QC, said that if the plot had succeeded it would have had serious consequences for world peace. "To take part in this plot to get components which were intended for use in a nuclear weapon into the hands of scientists in Iraq was a serious offence which could have had terrible consequences, not only in the Middle East but perhaps for the world," he said.

He added that Daghir, of Esher, Surrey, who has dual British and Iraqi nationality, had "a long and fair trial" during which he was "more than competently defended by an English barrister at the expense of the British public". He wondered how Daghir "would have fared" if he had been tried in his native land.

Daghir and Speckman, a French national, of Addlestone, Surrey, took part in negotiations to have 40 electrical capacitors exported to Iraq. They agreed that the devices would have to be disguised as air-conditioning parts because the military specifications meant they would never be granted an export licence.

The jury was told that Jerry Kowalsky, president of CSI Technologies, based in San Marcos, California, became suspicious when he received an order for the capacitors. He alerted the CIA and customs.

Daniel Supnick, a US customs agent, posed as a CSI sales manager. In a joint operation with British customs he set up a meeting with Daghir, Speckman and three Iraqi engineers at the Cavendish hotel, London, where the conversations were taped.

In March 1989 the capacitors arrived at Heathrow. Dummies were put in their place and the crates trailed to Euromac's offices. A few days later they returned to Heathrow and were intercepted while being loaded on to an Iraqi Airways jet.

## On the trail of Saddam's bomb

By RAY CLANCY

OPERATION Argus, which foiled the detonators plot, was a small part of the continuing international intelligence project to find out how close Saddam Hussein is to becoming the first Arab leader with a nuclear bomb.

Customs chiefs in Britain were convinced that if the 40 capacitors had reached Baghdad, they would have been used for nuclear bombs.

Douglas Tweddle, chief investigations officer with Customs and Excise, said: "It could have made quite a difference to the Desert Storm operation. If they [the Iraqis] had been able to put together nuclear weapons, the balance of power in the Middle East would have been changed."

Part of the reason for doggedly pursuing this case was a determination to find out how badly the Iraqis needed the parts and who was involved, not just in Britain, but in the United States.

At the time of the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait in last August, official assessments from Israel, the United States

and France suggested that Saddam Hussein was between two and five years away from producing a nuclear bomb. The Gulf war has put nuclear projects back at least a decade, according to the latest information from US government sources.

The case was also part of a continuing US investigation into Iraqi intelligence networks. Reports in the United States have suggested that Daghir was working for the Iraqis, but Mr Tweddle said that he had no direct evidence to suggest that he was an agent.

However, some US officials are convinced that Daghir was a trained agent. "He performed not as a businessman, but as an agent using the same tactics and guile that we used," one official said.

The precise destination of the capacitors has never been fully explained. At the trial, it emerged that they were bound for the Alqasba state establishment, but nobody seems able to say what the establishment does or exactly where it is.



Daghir: plot "mastermind" jailed for five years



Speckman: Surrey-based firm's export manager

## Doctors win pay pledge as cut in hours is agreed

By NICHOLAS WOOD, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

JUNIOR hospital doctors will not lose money because of the agreement to reduce working hours, William Waldegrave, the health secretary, promised yesterday, hailing an "historic deal" between the medical profession and his ministry.

The agreement, endorsed by the royal medical colleges, the British Medical Association and ministers, aims to cut the working week from an average of 90 hours to a maximum of 83 immediately and to 72 for the busiest doctors by the end of 1994. Those work in specialties such as general surgery and casualty and make up nearly half the total. The rest will have to wait until the end of 1996 for the 72-hour week.

The deal will be underpinned by an extra £12.4 million from the government to pay for 200 new consultants and 50 new middle-ranking posts, expected to be in post by the end of next year.

Mr Waldegrave and Dr Stephen Hunter, the junior doctors' leader, also insisted that the deal would benefit patients by reducing the risk of their being treated by exhausted staff.

Mr Waldegrave, giving the pay guarantee, said that the government and the medical

profession would seek to present joint evidence to the doctors' and dentists' pay review body later in the year to ensure that salary levels took account of changes in working practices.

Under the agreement, the maximum average contracted hours for doctors in training in hard-pressed posts are to be reduced to 72 hours a week by December 31, 1994, and regional task forces are to report by the end of 1993 on the implications of reducing hours for

remaining staff to 72 a week by December 31, 1996.

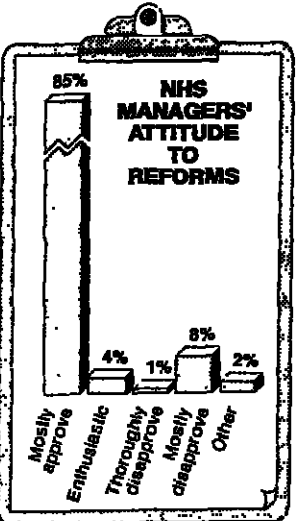
Controls on maximum periods of "continuous duty and minimum off-duty periods are to be implemented for all staff by December 31, 1994, ending the 80-hour weekend. Some higher specialist trainees are to contract, for more than 72 hours where appropriate.

Maximum average contracted hours of duty for all doctors in training are to be reduced to 83 as soon as practicable.

### Officials back NHS changes

THE government's NHS reforms receive a boost today with publication of a survey indicating that the majority of district general managers support them (Tim Jones writes).

Eighty-five per cent of managers replying to a survey by the National Association of Health Authorities and Trusts approved of the reforms, and 88 per cent expected the NHS to benefit by becoming more businesslike. Seventy-two per cent of managers in England and Wales replied.



## A job just to stay awake

By DR THOMAS STUTTAFORD

OVER 30 years ago when I fell asleep across the bed of a newly admitted emergency case only the patient was surprised, for the nurses were used to housemen being so tired that they found it difficult to keep their eyes open.

The patient's surprise must have been tinged with some anxiety as she wondered if the zombie to whom she has entrusted her medical care, and perhaps her life, was quite at his best.

patients' welfare is of paramount importance personal feelings are comparatively easily obliterated from the mind.

Tiredness was expected, housemen were resident, they usually worked continuously for 13 days on call, with one night off it was very rare to spend a night in bed, not uncommon to seize only a couple of hours' sleep.

Nobody would claim that the working conditions were fair to the patient, nor that we could not have done our jobs better if we were less tired but it would be idle to pretend that better working conditions have not been bought at a cost. The modern junior doctor works a shift and there is little peer group support, the house-

man's life is no longer centred on the ward. The training today is less comprehensive. In the past the doctor met patients immediately after admission and was with them until they were discharged or died. Every twist in the course of their varied diseases was witnessed and every aspect of treatment supervised.

It would be a mistake to dismiss the anxieties expressed by Dr Margaret Turner-Warwick, President of the Royal College of Physicians, about the drop in the amount of experience that will stem from shorter hours as merely the reaction of an older doctor opposed to change.

Health, page 15



Return home: a glass-sided hearse drawn by black-plumed horses carries Jack Evans's body to his mother's grave in Porthmadog, Gwynedd

## Eccentric last trip for son of Wales

By RONALD FAUX

THE last wishes of Jack Evans, Welsh orphan and American oil millionaire, assured him a cheerfully eccentric send-off yesterday.

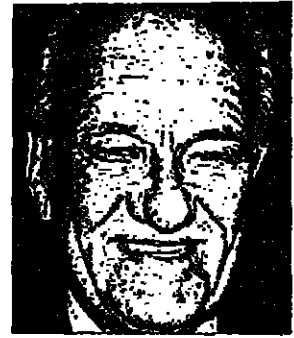
In a style distinctly non-chapel, his ashes were driven in a glass-sided hearse pulled by black-plumed horses along the high street in Porthmadog, Gwynedd, the town where he was born and which he never forgot. Ahead was a New Orleans brass band, and, behind, more than 200 of his friends and

relatives carrying brightly decorated umbrellas. They formed into groups named after Mr Evans's favourite expressions: wheeler-dealers, battle axes, moochers, zealots, bleeding hearts.

Jack Evans died in Mexico last March aged 84, leaving explicit instructions for his burial in his mother's grave and about £200,000 to fly everyone across the Atlantic. He requested one number from the band: "When The Saints Come Marching In".

The four-times married Mr Evans had emigrated to Canada at the age of 17 on a Dr Barnardo's scheme. He became an airforce colonel and after the war went into building oil refineries. Among his many acquaintances was Al Capone.

For Porthmadog, it was the greatest occasion since the last flower show, although bewildering to any uninformed visitor. A woman gaped at the procession: "Do they always do it like this in Wales?" she asked.



Evans: Al Capone was among his acquaintances

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Emirates

## Professor warns of allergy epidemic linked to pollution

BRITAIN is on the verge of an epidemic of hay fever and other allergies aggravated by road traffic pollution, according to a professor of respiratory medicine.

Rising levels of nitrogen dioxide in the atmosphere from exhaust fumes could help to explain why hay fever appears to be increasing, Robert Davies, of St Bartholemew's hospital, London, said yesterday. Research at the hospital shows that nitrogen dioxide levels of 0.4 to 2 parts per million can damage the sensitive lining of the nose and may make hay fever sufferers more vulnerable to attacks.

Professor Davies was speaking in London as British experts prepared for the launch tomorrow of a project that will seek to provide hay fever sufferers with earlier and more accurate predictions of high pollen counts by producing detailed pollen maps from 22 European countries.

He said research showed

### Sufferers of hay fever may have more than pollen up their noses, Thomson Prentice reports

that particles in diesel engine fumes appeared capable of producing enhanced sensitivity to some pollens, and allergic reactions in their own right. In 20 years the number of people treated for hay fever had risen fourfold although pollen counts in cities had dropped.

"At the same time, cases of asthma and eczema appear to be rising by about 5 per cent a year and we are now on the edge of an epidemic of allergies," he said. "It is possible that the continuing frequency and severity of hay fever is occurring because of the nitrogen dioxide pollution affecting the nasal passages."

Stephen Moorcroft, senior

consultant with London Scientific Services, an environmental health consultancy, said that nitrogen dioxide levels in central London rose by 40 per cent between 1979 and 1989.

Tomorrow, the European Pollen Information network begins trials of regularly updated, computer-drawn maps showing pollen counts across the Continent. About 200,000 doctors will be asked to evaluate the maps for usefulness as guides for hay fever sufferers.

The British input is from the British Aerobiology Federation, set up last year with a national database at the Pollen Research Unit at North London polytechnic. Dr Jean Emberlin, director of the unit, said yesterday: "The computerised pollen maps will be sent regularly to thousands of British GPs and should help them warn hay fever sufferers of where there are high pollen counts, and predict the conditions of the next week or so."



Out for the count: Dr Jean Emberlin checking the pollen measurement on the roof of North London polytechnic with Dick Bryant, the polytechnic's dean of academic affairs and a consultant to the Pollen Research Unit

## Gulf war hostage found dead

A man held hostage in Iraq during the Gulf war has been found dead from a shotgun wound at his home in Cornwall. Clive Stringer, aged 47, who had been suffering from depression since he returned home to Lower Llandudno, was one of 1,400 Britons seized after Iraq invaded Kuwait.

Another former hostage, John Rattenbury, aged 62, from Okehampton, Devon, said that the government should have done more to examine the effects of captivity on Gulf hostages.

## Briton killed in Australia

A body found in Australia's Northern Territory, north of the town of Katherine, was yesterday provisionally identified by Darwin police as Fiona Mary Carty, aged 21, from Ealing, west London. A murder investigation is under way.

## Legal challenge

The Cheltenham Conservative William Galbraith is to seek a judicial review of the Attorney-General's decision to bring charges alleging that remarks he is said to have made about the adoption of John Taylor, a black barrister, as prospective Conservative parliamentary candidate could have stirred racial hatred.

## Pollution trial

National Power was yesterday committed for trial after a chemical spill from the Willington power station in Derbyshire last October killed 17,000 fish in the Trent.

## Transplant first

The first heart transplant operation at Queen Elizabeth hospital, Birmingham, was carried out at the weekend. The patient, a man aged 55, is said to be recovering well.

## Cabs ordered

London's black cabs will soon be appearing on the streets of Sydney, Australia. Metro Cabs, which makes the taxis in Tamworth, Staffordshire, has won a £1 million order to supply cabs to the city.

## Singer sought

Atlantic Records is trying to track down Bette Midler, above, because her single *From a Distance* has proved so successful, entering the charts at 25. The singer and actress is on a touring holiday in the Yorkshire Dales.



## 70% rise in long-term jobless forecast

By PHILIP BASSETT  
INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

LONG-term unemployment is expected to rise by as much as 70 per cent over the next year to almost one million, according to a forecast published today. Later today, the government's monthly jobless figures will show a further increase in overall unemployment, which will probably raise the total to above 2.25 million.

The Campaign for Work pressure group predicts that long-term unemployment, defined as the number out of work for more than a year, will rise from its present total of 555,000 to as much as 942,000 within 12 months.

If that forecast is right, it indicates that overall unemployment is likely to continue to rise well beyond the economic recovery predicted by John Major, the prime minister, for the second half of this year. The campaign also releases today the results of a survey of MPs and constituency candidates that suggests that unemployment is thought likely, even by a considerable number of Conservative MPs, to be a significant issue in a general election. Unemployment has been shown to be increasing much more rapidly in Conservative-held seats than in Labour ones.

## Chemical solution lacks convenience

By CRAIG SETON

A RATHER inconvenient solution has been proposed for motorists wishing to answer the call of nature on the newly extended M40, which has no service stations for the 90 miles between London and Birmingham.

The Department of Transport wants to provide chemical toilets at three sites, but drivers will have to leave the motorway to reach them. The temporary lavatories are expected to be needed for at least two years until the first service area is opened.

It will be the first time such lavatories have been provided for a British motorway and follows criticism by the Automobile Association of the department's habit of allowing motorways to be completed before service areas have been built.

The motoring organisation said that drivers could travel more than 200 miles from the Kent port of Folkestone to Birmingham via the M20, M26, M25 and M40 without passing a service area.

The Birmingham extension of the M40, which originally linked London and Oxford, was opened in January and was welcomed as an alternative to the overcrowded M1. The transport department has received numerous complaints about the lack of facilities. The AA says that motorists have parked on the hard shoulder of the M40 to relieve themselves.

As a result, the transport department plans three sites off the M40 for toilets and parking. The most northerly, between junctions 13 and 14, close to Warwick, is scheduled for both sides of the A452, about a mile and a half from

the motorway exit. Two more are suggested for Oxfordshire at Ardley, near Bicester, and Tetworth, near Thame. Warwickshire county council is to consider whether to grant permission for the site near Warwick today. It is concerned about how long the lavatories will remain and how many people will use them.

All three sites are close to parts of the motorway that have been proposed for large M40 service areas. Only one, at Ardley, has been approved and it will not be completed until early 1993. The two others await planning clearance. Up to 66,000 vehicles a day are calculated to use the busiest section of the new extension, but it is not fully used by heavy goods vehicles because of a lack of services.

A spokeswoman for the transport department said yesterday that signs on the M40 would indicate to motorists where the temporary toilets were. Drivers would be able to rejoin the motorway at the next junction without too much of a diversion. She added: "They are intended as an emergency provision only."

The AA is less than happy about the proposal, especially as the M40 extension has been many years in the planning. A spokeswoman said: "Motorway service areas are vital and should have been planned from the outset."

The organisation said there were other long sections of motorway in the country without services. Motorists travelling from Hampshire to Birmingham using the M3, M25 and M40 could drive 103 miles without finding a service area.

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THE NEW SOUTH AFRICA. BRINGING THE SUNSHINE BACK INTO AFRICA.

July 1991



## Race relations

## Commission seeks tougher laws on discrimination

By QUENTIN COWDRY, HOME AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

RACIAL discrimination and disadvantage are again threatening the stability of inner-city areas, the Commission for Racial Equality said yesterday as it renewed calls for tougher legal sanctions against racism.

The commission said that although there was now far less of the "raw, overt discrimination" that was prevalent before the 1976 Race Relations Act, the slowness of improvement, combined with the recession and public spending cuts, was feeding a sense of "increasing disillusionment and despair" among ethnic minorities.

Michael Day, the commission's chairman, arguing that many factors, such as unemployment and poor housing,

that contributed to the inner-city riots of ten years ago were still apparent, said: "In many inner-city areas the 'peace' is very fragile."

He added: "The structural disadvantage which affects those in the deprived areas of our country amongst whom there is often an over-representation of minority ethnic communities has not been addressed with sufficient urgency."

The commission yesterday published its report for 1990 and a consultative paper calling for the 1976 act to be overhauled. Mr Day said that the act needed to be clearer, wider in scope and less cumbersome in application.

The commission's main demand is that the act adopt the approach of legislation against religious discrimination in Northern Ireland. Employers would be required to keep records of the ethnic make-up of workforces and to publish them annually. While opposed to quotas, the commission would use the data to set "aspirational targets" for recruitment of non-whites.

Other proposals aim to reduce the delays and legal complexities that have bedevilled some of the commission's formal investigations. Allegations of racial discrimination by employers would still be investigated by the commission, but the power to issue non-discrimination notices — the body's most potent sanction — would be handed to industrial tribunals.

Perhaps more significantly, it is proposed that the commission would not need prima facie evidence of an employer breaking the law before launching an enquiry. That requirement, stemming from a Court of Appeal judgment, has severely hampered formal investigations.

The commission is also calling for "race cases" to be heard by a special division of the industrial tribunal network, for legal aid to be extended to tribunal applicants and for the maximum compensation payable in such cases to be raised from £8,925 to £30,000.

The paper says that racial discrimination is still worryingly high and permeates most aspects of society, including provision of housing, education and health care. It cites evidence of discrimination at work the March 1990 *Employment Gazette*, which said that joblessness among ethnic minorities was 60 per cent above that for whites, and research by the Policy Studies Institute that estimated that "tens of thousands" of non-white job-seekers each year encountered discrimination.

The paper says that 22 per cent of Asian households are overcrowded, against 3 per cent of white households, and that members of racial minorities are disproportionately more likely to be homeless.

The document says that people should not see the success of some non-white citizens as a sign that existing legislation is strong enough.

Ethnic minorities are generally under-represented in the professions, but steps are being taken to increase representation (Paul Wilkinson writes). Last week, the Bar Council announced proposals to set a 5 per cent target for minority group membership of individual chambers.

The Bar Council is still not certain of the legality of the proposal, to be vetted by the Commission for Racial Equality before its formal adoption.

Leading article, page 19

## Victim appalled at firm's excuse

By QUENTIN COWDRY, HOME AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

EUGENE Sutton smiled wryly when told of the Commission for Racial Equality's assertion that much of the "raw" racism found in Britain in the 1950s and 1960s had gone. "If that's true, I've just been unlucky," he said yesterday.

Last month, an industrial tribunal found that the constant racist taunts Mr Sutton was subjected to while working on a building site in London were a breach of the 1976 Race Relations Act. He was awarded £2,000 damages, a sum he and his solicitors believe is derisory.

Balfour Beatty Construction, the building contractor, admitted during the hearing that one of its foremen had called Mr Sutton a "black bastard", but maintained that the phrase was simply an exhortation to Mr Sutton to "work normally" and that such language was "common parlance" on building sites. The firm also accepted that a senior manager had known the taunting was going on, but had failed to stop it.

Mr Sutton, aged 26, of Blackheath, southeast London, who is of mixed West Indian and English parentage, said he still feels appalled by the abuse he suffered and his

former employer's attempt to excuse the name-calling.

The barred windows, laser beams and security locks at the home of Zerbanoo Gifford remind her that racism is still a potent force in Britain (Tim Jones writes).

Mrs Gifford, an Asian married to an English lawyer, has faced the full force of bigotry and hatred since entering politics. An adviser on community affairs to Paddy Ashdown, leader of the Liberal Democrats, she said that many Asians believe the authorities are dismissive or hostile to people reporting racial attacks. She has called for a special national police squad to tackle the problem.

After appearing on BBC Television's *Question Time* programme earlier this year, Mrs Gifford, who is standing as a parliamentary candidate in Hertsmere, Hertfordshire, said she was warned by a National Front supporter that her home would be fire-bombed if she stood.

In spite of the precautions at her home in Harrow on the Hill, northwest London, someone managed to break in and leave a death threat. However, she said yesterday that she felt race relations were improving in Britain.

Gifford: call for a special police squad to be set up



Sutton: £2,000 damages after taunts by foreman



Gifford: call for a special police squad to be set up

## Planning threat to green belt

By JOHN YOUNG

GREEN belts would be among the first casualties of any local government reform which replaced county councils with a large number of small unitary authorities, a conference of the Royal Town Planning Institute in Newcastle upon Tyne was told yesterday.

Tony Burton, of the Council for the Protection of Rural England, said the loss of strategic planning to a hotch-potch of small unitary authorities would undermine key environmental policies such as the green belt.

The danger was clear where metropolitan county councils had already been abolished. In the former Tyne and Wear area, councils were fighting among themselves to release more than 3,700 acres of recently approved green belt.

Newcastle city council's development plan published this month proposed to release about 3,300 acres of green belt for housing and industrial development, Mr Burton said. Proposals by Gateshead borough council last year envisaged the release of 370 acres and Sunderland borough council was considering similar ideas.

Mr Burton added that as recently as 1985 strategic planning guidance issued by the environment department stated: "The broad extent and purpose of the approved green belt remains valid and should be maintained."

## HMI chief's faith in school reforms

By JOHN O'LEARY, HIGHER EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

THE examination system is largely to blame for disillusionment with education among the 30 per cent of pupils who derive little benefit from school, Eric Bolton, the retiring head of the schools inspectorate, said yesterday.

At a press briefing held to mark his departure from office next month, Mr Bolton said that the education system was in better condition than when he became senior chief inspector eight years ago. "Some parts of it are still suffering, but it is much more aware and conscious than it was about its performance."

To improve the "stubborn statistic" of 30 per cent of pupils who, the inspectors believe, are failed by the system, however, Mr Bolton said a wider range of qualifications needed to be developed. "With young children you can do it provided you have extremely good teachers, but as they get older and the reality of life begins to bear down on them, they want to know what is in it for them. We are only just beginning to provide a system of qualifications that show them there is some point in carrying on."

He attributed some of the improvement to the national curriculum and attacked critics of the tests for seven-year-olds. Although some teachers had reservations about testing at that age, many had been surprised at the results, he said. The tests had disclosed capability among pupils that

had not previously been recognised.

Meanwhile, secondary schools will have to publish pupils' examination results alongside comparable area and national figures from next summer. Regulations issued yesterday to English education authorities are designed to make schools more accountable to parents. GCSE, A-level, AS-level and vocational results will have to be included in governors' reports and school prospectuses.

Two more primary schools have been given permission to opt out of local authority control. St Helen's primary school, Bluntham, Cambridgeshire, and Moulton primary school, Northamptonshire, will become grant-maintained in September. They join Bourne County primary school, Lincolnshire, which on Tuesday became the first such school to be allowed to opt out.

Teachers in Lewisham, southeast London, are to stage a one-day strike today in protest at cuts expected to bring savings on this year's education budget to more than £10 million. Many of the 90 schools are expected to close for the day.

Councillors met last night to discuss a £4.9 million overspending, which has led to a recruitment freeze and the planned loss of 90 teachers. Lewisham has already cut more than £5 million from its education budget.



All electric: a high-speed 225 train passes York minster during the first electric-powered passenger service between London and Edinburgh yesterday

## Door locks examined in train deaths enquiry

By MICHAEL DYNES, TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

HEALTH and Safety Executive researchers have started examining train-door locks as part of the investigation into the unexplained deaths caused by passengers falling from moving high-speed trains.

About 40 per cent of the incidents have been attributed to recklessness, drunkenness or passengers trying to

close partially opened doors by leaning out of the window to turn the handle, allowing the wind to push open the door. There is, however, no explanation for the remaining 60 per cent of cases.

British Rail has provided the researchers with door locks from a variety of trains, each of which will be tested. The enquiry — the third into such deaths — is not expected

to be completed until the end of the year.

Between 1972 and 1990, 324 people were killed falling from moving trains, an average of 17 a year, although the figure was 31 in 1979. There were 17 such incidents in 1990. Claims that a design fault in modifications to InterCity Mark 2 and Mark 3 coaches might be responsible for the unexplained deaths

were ruled out during the first enquiry at the end of last year.

It had been suggested that the modifications, which made the doors wider for easier access and moved them from the sides of coaches to the ends, also allowed the doors to move inside their frames at high speeds, enabling the door-lock mechanism to slip out of the closed position. However, BR's internal enquiry found no evidence to support the theory. Its findings were later upheld by a second enquiry conducted earlier this year by an independent firm of engineering consultants.

Meanwhile, BR has started painting fluorescent strips on the sides of train doors, allowing platform staff to spot doors which have not been properly closed.

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55% OFF	Tarnock	£2299.95	£1263	£966.95	
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## Court is told of screams in murder flat

A WOMAN mistook the dying screams of two neighbours for a domestic quarrel and carried on watching her television, the Central Criminal Court was told yesterday. Tina O'Field said she thought the two women occupants, Elaine Forsyth, aged 31, and Patricia Morrison, aged 28, were fighting.

"I told my boy friend to turn the television back up and we made tea," she said. Miss O'Field admitted she did nothing after hearing two screams in a woman's voice, coming from the adjacent basement flat in Grenville Road, Holloway, north London, late on July 21 last year. She said that after dozing off in front of the television, she was woken just before 4am by a metallic rattling noise coming from the gas fire on the partition wall in the hall.

The prosecution alleges Michael Shorey, aged 34, killed the women and laid the bodies on the hall carpet before driving them to a neighbouring street and abandoning them in Miss Morrison's Toyota car.

Miss O'Field said: "I didn't really want to look down the hall, although there was nothing there. I kept staring at the fire because it was making a noise but not moving. I made myself a cup of tea and went to bed."

Shorey, an accounts clerk, denies murdering Miss Forsyth during a row over their

relationship and murdering Miss Morrison when she discovered what had happened. John Nutting, for the prosecution, has alleged that Shorey propped the bodies in the car seats before driving them to a street near by.

He allegedly spent the rest of the weekend with a new girl friend, Sandy Ratcliff, a former *EastEnders* actress, in the hope of gaining an alibi.

During cross-examination by Mr Richard Ferguson, QC, for the defence, Miss O'Field said she did not hear a man's voice coming from the next-door flat. Her boy friend, Philip Casey, described hearing tinkling noises from next door while he was in the shower. He likened them to someone bumping into a dressing table with perfume bottles on it. "I could hear it clearly, even with the water running," he said.

When he left the shower, he and Tina could hear what appeared to be two women arguing. "There were a couple of screams and that was the last we heard of it," he said. Mr Casey agreed with Mr Ferguson that no man's voice was heard.

Another witness, Tracey Bell, a friend of Miss Morrison who worked at the same West End estate agents, agreed with the Mr Ferguson that the dead woman was "a sociable, open, trusting sort of person who made friends readily". The case continues today.



A cut above: Grant Lohear uses a scythe to harvest sedge at Wicken Fen in Cambridgeshire, which received a European conservation award yesterday. The windy wetland nature reserve is one of the few remaining areas of traditional fenland in East

Anglia (John Shaw writes). Huge expanses of fen in the region were drained by the Dutch for agricultural use in the 18th century. The reserve was the fifth property to be acquired by the National Trust, in 1899, and is managed in the traditional way. Sedge is

harvested to provide a topping on the ridge of cottages but once provided the entire thatching for houses in the district. Dr Maurice Lindsay, secretary-general of Europa Nostra, presented a diploma of merit to Lord Chorley, chairman of the trust.

## Ministers try to cut home repossessions

By RICHARD FORD AND CHRISTOPHER WARMAN

THE government is responding to an embarrassing rise in house repossessions by urging banks and building societies to do all they can to prevent people losing their homes.

Repossessions, which increased by nearly three times to 43,890 last year, are likely to double this year as the backlog of mortgage arrears cases reaches the courts. Sir George Young, the housing minister, has held several meetings with the Council of Mortgage Lenders and has urged it to encourage its members to consider all other options before deciding to repossess.

Ministers are worried about the high level of debt with which many families are burdened, and hope that their persuasive efforts will slow the rate of repossessions. The environment department said, however, that the figures must be kept in perspective. Those who lost their homes made up a small proportion of the total number of mortgage payers.

Banks and building societies have been increasingly criticised for failing to help borrowers in difficulty, but the Council of Mortgage Lenders has emphasised that its members continue to treat repossession as a last resort.

Nonetheless, the rate of repossessions has led the council to decide to set up a register to prevent people applying for a loan without

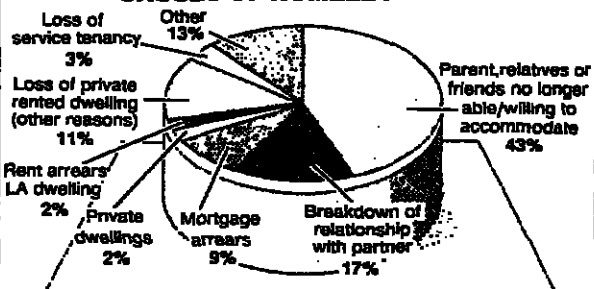
revealing that they have defaulted on a previous loan. The National Association of Citizens' Advice Bureaux has criticised the decision, saying that the system would blacklist people who had had financial difficulties.

Labour yesterday called on the government to create a mortgage rescue scheme to help the thousands of families struggling to meet their repayments. Clive Soley, Labour's housing spokesman, said that the scheme should allow home-owners in arrears to become part owners, paying a combination of mortgage and rent. "This would help the family who have had a drop in income," he added.

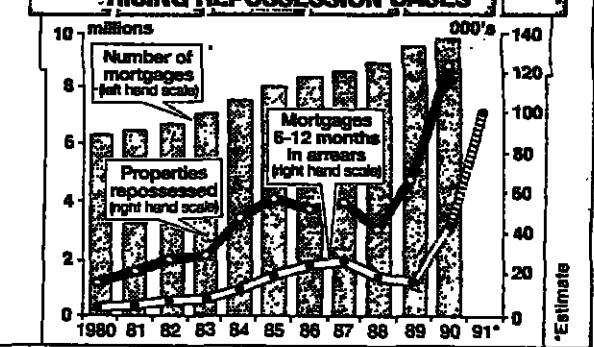
Although the housing market is showing signs of recovery it remains almost static overall, preventing home-owners in difficulty from trading down to pay off their arrears. The next set of six-monthly repossession figures from the Council of Mortgage Lenders, due in August, is expected to show another increase, with the total approaching 100,000 by the end of the year.

The recovery is being held back by the number of repossessed homes coming on the market. The consultants UBS Phillips & Drew expect about 80,000 to be sold this year, providing low prices for first-time buyers but having little effect on the rest of the market.

### CAUSES OF HOMELESSNESS



### RIISING REPOSSESSION CASES



## Lenders 'quick to go to court'

By BILL FROST

JUDGE Geoffrey Parmer dealt with 55 arrears and repossession cases at Torquay county court yesterday. A similar number of hearings will take place next week. Two years ago, there were six a month. He said that many lenders were too quick to go to court and that others were "somewhat aggressive" with defaulters.

James, aged 32 - no-one wanted their identity disclosed - nearly lost his £65,000 bungalow in Paignton, Devon, last winter. He left the Royal Navy 18 months ago to set up a motor-tuning business. "I was struggling and then the interest rates went through the roof. I had to find £850 a month for the mortgage."

"I went to the building society and they told me bluntly it was not their problem." The bank would not help either. A repossession summons was served in January but an improvement in business enabled him to begin reducing his £6,000 arrears. Yesterday, he was given three months to clear the debt.

Vera and John, both hos-

pital workers, were yesterday given 16 months to repay £3,000 owing to the Chelsea Building Society. They do not, however, blame the lenders. Vera, aged 37, said: "The government cannot handle the economy. The recession is at the root of our problems."

The Torquay couple, with a combined monthly wage of £1,300, have seen repayments on their £47,000 mortgage rise from £435 to £737. They have now put the house on the market.

Stephen, aged 32, a furniture salesman, also blames the government. "I do not attack the building society, it is what the government is doing, letting interest rates go mad."

He and his family moved to a £45,000 house in Brixham, Devon, last year. Within months, his repayments rose from £430 to more than £600, but his earnings - which depend on commission - dropped. Before long, the couple owed the building society £4,000. Both have taken extra jobs and were yesterday given six months to clear their debt.

## Sinking feeling

By OUR PROPERTY CORRESPONDENT

GLOBAL warming will cause structural damage to many houses, which will have to be tackled by new building regulations, a leading climatologist says today. Professor Martin Parry, chairman of the UK Climate Change Impacts Review Group, says that drier, warmer summers and wetter winters will increase the shrinking and swelling of clay soils, resulting in a much higher risk of structural damage through subsidence, particularly in central, eastern and south-

ern England. In the housing and planning review of the National Housing and Town Planning Council, he reports that in coastal areas soil salinity is expected to increase. That would damage existing buildings and require preventive measures in new ones. More gales and wind-driven rain were likely, making a revision of building design codes for the construction industry necessary. Insurance costs were also expected to rise significantly, with the need to amend warranty terms.

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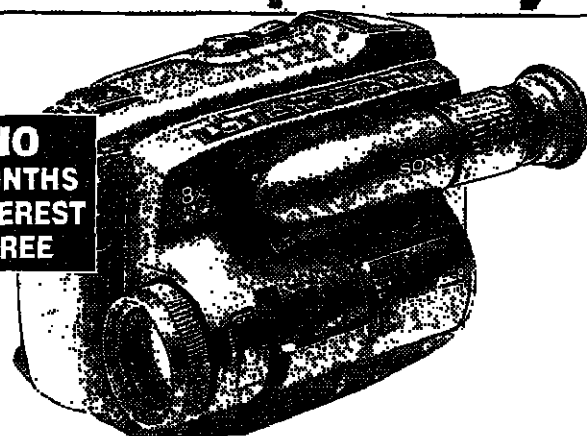
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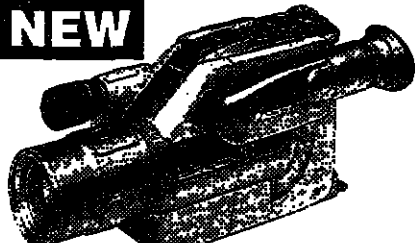
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# Hamilton refuses to confirm truth of Rosyth leaks

By MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

THE fate of the Rosyth naval base in Scotland, which costs £64 million a year to run, provoked angry exchanges between MPs and Archie Hamilton, the armed forces minister, during a Commons select committee hearing yesterday.

MPs showered Mr Hamilton with leaked documents which gave the clear impression that Rosyth had been chosen for closure.

But Mr Hamilton, appearing before the defence committee, insisted that ministers

## DEFENCE

had still not received from officials proposals for closing Rosyth or any of the four other bases, at Portsmouth, Portland, Devonport and Faslane. He said he was sad that the leaked documents, whose authenticity he did not deny, had caused so much uncertainty.

A study had been carried out under the defence ministry's "options for change" review into the practicalities of closing Rosyth. The naval officer in charge of the study was Rear Admiral Hugo White, assistant chief of naval staff (now Vice-Admiral Sir Hugo White).

However, when asked if similar option studies had been conducted into the closure of the other bases, Mr Hamilton merely replied that there had been several studies.

John McFall, Labour MP for Dumbarton, waved his leaked documents which included a memorandum from Admiral White purporting to say that the decision on whether to close Rosyth would be taken by ministers on March 27. Mr Hamilton replied that he did not want to comment on leaked documents.

Mr McFall also took Mr Hamilton to task over reported comments by his colleague in the ministry, Alan Clark, minister for defence procurement, that Rosyth was going to close. He had also been quoted as saying that Devonport was not going to close.

Mr Hamilton stuck to his line that no decision had yet been made. If the MPs wanted to ask Mr Clark about what he had said, they should address their questions to him.

John Lee, Conservative MP for Pendle and a former junior defence minister, said "the sword of Damocles" was hanging over Rosyth.

Mr Hamilton told the committee that the intention was

to save 15 to 20 per cent from the naval support services, a cut of about £500,000 from the total budget of £2.5 billion. The cuts would not be carried out across the board because that would not be cost effective. He agreed that it was even possible that the savings could be found without having to close any of the bases.

The running costs of the other bases were given as £148 million for Portsmouth, £122 million for Devonport, £74 million for Faslane and £14 million for Portland.

Mr Hamilton said he did not know when the proposals would be made to ministers. He hoped that the government would be able to make an announcement before the end of the summer.

When asked how much the closure of Rosyth would save, Mr Hamilton said he had no figures, an answer that caused some astonishment. Michael Bates, Conservative MP for Hampshire East, asked whether ministers knew what could be saved from the closure of any of the other bases. Mr Hamilton replied that the overall costing exercise was complicated because they had to take into account the cost of redeploying vessels and facilities from one base to another. At Rosyth there were now four destroyers and 27 smaller ships, such as mine counter-measures vessels and fishery protection vessels.

The MPs were told that if one of the bases were to be closed, the aim would be to dispose of the land. Closure, however, could be "a lengthy process".

Earlier in the day Labour accused the government of hatching a cynical plan to delay the closure of Rosyth until after a general election. Gordon Brown, shadow trade secretary, said information passed to him showed that Rosyth was not included in the defence ministry's costings for more than "one or two years".



Alton: poll tax payers left to stew in their own juice

## Poll tax shortfall upsets minister

LIVERPOOL city council came under attack in the Commons yesterday when Michael Portillo, local government minister, said that he was appalled at local authorities that through "ineptness, inefficiency or lack of will" failed to collect the poll tax and then asked law-abiding citizens to make up the shortfall (Peter Mulligan writes).

He told MPs: "Those citizens have every right to be angry with their local authorities and express their feelings most strongly through the ballot box".

He was responding to David Alton, Liberal Democrat MP

for Liverpool, Mossley Hill, who said that bins in the city had not been emptied for 13 weeks and poll tax payers were having to pay an extra £71 on their bills this year for those who had not paid last year.

Later, during a debate on local government finance, Mr Alton described the "stench" of noxious refuse left by the bin dispute. He called on the government to intervene directly and not leave community charge payers to "stew in their own juice". People were "being caught up like first world war soldiers in the trenches while the generals fired above their heads".

## Votes at risk, Tories told

By PETER MULLIGAN

### COUNCIL TAX

TORY MPs warned the government yesterday that the council tax could lead to electoral losses in the south-east because high house prices will cause many homes to be placed in the most expensive of the seven proposed valuation bands.

Sir Rhodes Boyson, MP for Brent North, urged ministers to create a special category for London to take account of the price differences with the rest of the country.

He said that in the London borough of Barnet, 47 per cent of houses would be in the top band of the proposed tax as would the great majority in his own constituency; in the northwest, just 1 per cent of homes would fall into that category. "My people and the numerous constituencies in London will look at this and say we are not happy about the system", he told the Commons during a debate on local government finance.

His appeal was taken up by Richard Tracey, MP for Surbiton, who called on ministers to consider basing the tax not on the prices of homes in the estate agents' window but on "rebuild costs" as used by insurance companies. He also urged ministers not to rule out the idea of banding according to region.

Michael Portillo, local government minister, made clear that the details of the valuation had not yet been worked out because the consultation period would not end until Friday. He acknowledged that the two MPs had raised difficult issues, but cautioned them about resentment in other parts of the country if London were treated differently.

He referred to the government's plan for seven bands and a national valuation system as a firm proposal, adding: "I anticipate that the firm proposal will be one that the government will continue to find attractive".

## Unexploded bomb lies at party's heart

By ROBIN OAKLEY, POLITICAL EDITOR

SOME issues are so important as to come before party, Nicholas Ridley said yesterday, defending Margaret Thatcher's right to speak out. Few could quarrel with that. But the last senior politician I heard urging his party not to worship too much at the altar of party was Dr David Owen, at what turned out to be the final party conference of the SDP.

Things are not that bad yet for the Tories. But they are bad enough for MPs to be wondering aloud if they should read something sinister into the comparative silence of Michael Heseltine. And, considering the hole they are in, some Conservatives are doing a remarkable lot of digging.

It is too easy for some to make Mrs Thatcher the villain. Some wonder if psychologically, she would like to see her party lose the election. Of course, she still smarts at the manner of her going. Of course, it would be only human to enjoy a certain inner relish at seeing them go down after rejecting her. It is hardly surprising either if she grumbles in private at changes made since she left. What former home-owner does not grumble about the poor taste of those who come after and alter the decoration?

Though it displays a naivety remarkable in one who has held her position, you can just believe the protestations of friends who say that she had not expected her remarks in interviews to foreign media to be taken up the way they have been. Many a politician has regretted speaking to the correspondent of Radio Mongolia with an abandon he would never have contemplated in a BBC studio.

But for Mr Ridley to deny that Mrs Thatcher could lose her party the next election by speaking out is less convincing. As Labour can tell him, the public rarely votes with enthusiasm for parties that reveal their splits and for the most powerful former prime minister we have had this century to speak out openly against her successor's mainstream policies would be a great handicap for the Tories.

There is only one reason why the Bruges Group and its famous "teenage strategists" Patrick Robertson create such a stir on Europe: because Mrs Thatcher is the group's president. And, although she may be as irritated as some other

MP sympathisers by the group's tendency to go over the top, she is unlikely to heed calls for her to leave it. Almost certainly her reaction will be that of the Bruges-sympathising MP who said: "If I was to resign from the Tory party every time somebody in it made a prat of themselves, life would be a revolving door. I am in the group because I approve of their general line and I am not going to damage them by leaving."

If Mrs Thatcher does not offer the threat of an unexploded bomb within the party, why are such strenuous efforts made by the party hierarchy to keep her briefed? If throwaway remarks in a few foreign interviews have created

Ridley: unconvinced in Thatcher's defence

this much trouble, just think what she could do if she tried.

The thing is that Mrs Thatcher creates problems for the Tories simply by being. John Major, conscious of the comparisons with a charismatic predecessor, has not yet the confidence to relax and do his own thing.

But will she take it any further? Will she really blow her top if she thinks Mr Major has broken faith with Thatcherism on Europe? Perhaps those nervous Tories should ask if she would really want to be blamed for dimming victory for Neil Kinnock, who would deliver a European policy no more to her liking than that of Mr Major?

There is, too, one other consideration noted by the more thoughtful Thatcherites. Her proudest boast is that she has never been rejected by the wider electorate. With the Tories ten points behind in the polls and falling, it would need only one intervention from her to make things so bad that her Finchley seat would slip beyond the danger mark.

## Homeless initiative working

Moves to get London's homeless off the streets are showing signs of success, according to figures given by Sir George Young, housing minister.

He said at question time that £96 million had been made available for permanent housing, direct access hostels and support for rough sleepers and 1,000 places had been provided. That number should double within the next six months.

### Veal trade

There is growing revulsion at the way farmers rear meat and they would ignore that revulsion at their peril, Christopher Mullin, Labour MP for Sunderland South, said when he introduced a bill to protect calves exported for veal.

Calves sent to the Continent were kept in conditions that are outlawed in Britain. His bill would ban the trade if the animals were kept in conditions that would not be tolerated here.

### New peer

Sally Hamwee, Liberal Democrat member of Richmond upon Thames council, was introduced in the Lords as Lady Hamwee.

### Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Questions: Northern Ireland; prime minister. Debate on Opposition motion on effects of government policies on businesses. Lords (3): Road traffic bill, report stage continued.

## MPs tell tale of library mismanagement

By SHEILA GUNN

POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE sorry saga behind the construction of the British Library's new £450 million building in London was disclosed in full to Parliament yesterday.

According to the Commons public accounts committee, the building, one of the largest civil projects of the century, has been blighted by delays, hidden costs and poor management. To make matters worse, the MPs disclose that when the St Pancras building

is opened in 1996 it may soon run out of shelf space to fulfil the library's statutory duty to house a copy of every United Kingdom publication.

The original plan, costed at £250 million, was for the new building to meet the library's storage needs up to the year 2030. The number of reader seats was also going to be trebled. The committee found that, as well as running out of storage space, the new building would increase the present number of 1,103 reader seats by less than 7 per cent. The Office of Arts and Libraries

decided to press ahead with plans for a 260-seat auditorium, entrance hall and large restaurant despite the shortage of working space in the library.

The committee said: "It seemed to us that the large auditorium and the large entrance hall may have been built at the expense of storage space for books, where capacity may be full by 1996, and the provision of reader seats, which are due to increase only

moderately over present levels. Accordingly, we are not convinced that the final building will have a proper balanced scale of provision."

The MPs complained that it took four years for project managers to identify serious management weaknesses, adding: "We are disturbed that the Office of Arts and Libraries, despite having commissioned and paid for the building, did not regard themselves as responsible for keeping control of the project".

A steering committee of the Property Services Agency, the

Treasury, British Library and education department was set up in 1978 to review progress. MPs found that after meeting in June 1983, the committee was not reactivated until November 1986. "We consider", the committee said, "that the failure of the project steering committee to meet for three-and-a-half years to have been indefensible."

House of Commons public accounts committee eighteenth report: *A New Building for the British Library* (Stationery Office, £8.90)

# DARUMA

A daruma is shaped after the meditating position of the Daruma master, founder of Zen Buddhism. This is a paper mache doll painted red everywhere except on the face. The bottom is heavy and curved allowing the daruma to swing itself back up if he falls on his side.

You may think "What a funny looking face he has!" But darumas have always been very popular in Japan. You can find one in almost every home. The Daruma is a lucky charm rather than a decoration or toy. When you buy one at a store, the eyes are not painted in. You are supposed to draw just one eye and make a wish as soon as you receive the doll. When your wish comes true, you should draw the other eye in as a sign of gratitude. In Nagano, our wish is to welcome the world to our home in February 1998 for the Olympic Winter Games.

We have been moved by the spirit of the Olympic Movement in these last three years, working to prepare our city. We hope that through the Olympic Movement we can continue to strengthen the friendships between peoples of all nations.

Le "Daruma" a été dessiné selon la position de méditation du maître Daruma, un des fondateurs de la secte bouddhiste Zen. C'est une poupée de papier mâché peinte en rouge sauf la figure. Le fond de la poupée est lourd et arrondi afin de lui permettre de se redresser si elle tombe sur le côté.

Peut-être pensez-vous en la voyant: "Quelle drôle de figure!" Cependant les Darumas ont toujours été très populaires au Japon. Vous pouvez en trouver dans presque chaque maison.

Les Darumas sont des portes-bonheur plutôt que des objets décoratifs ou des jouets. Quand vous en achetez un dans un magasin, les yeux ne sont pas dessinés. Dès votre acquisition, vous dessinez vous-même un œil et faites un vœu. Quand votre vœu est exaucé, vous dessinez l'autre œil en signe de gratitude. A Nagano, notre vœu est d'accueillir le monde entier chez nous en février 98 pour les Jeux Olympiques d'hiver.

Tout en le préparant, nous avons été touchés par l'esprit du mouvement olympique depuis ces trois derniers ans. Nous souhaitons que le mouvement olympique continuera de fortifier l'amitié entre les gens de toutes les nations.

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# Bush warns Castro not to allow new mass exodus

From MARTIN FLETCHER in WASHINGTON

A SURGE in the number of Cubans reaching America has prompted the Bush administration to warn Fidel Castro against repeating the 1980 Mariel boat lift when the Cuban president suddenly sent about 125,000 dissidents, as well as criminals and other undesirables, to Miami.

So far this year 972 Cubans have successfully crossed the perilous 90-mile stretch of sea to southern Florida on ramshackle rafts, more than twice the number for the whole of 1990, and the Cuban authorities are doing little to stop them. One was picked up from the sea last month by the royal yacht Britannia and taken to Miami, 11 others hijacked a

home. The authorities in southern Florida, stretched to the limit by Caribbean and Central American immigration, fear that the Cubans could be unleashing another Mariel-style exodus which they would be unable to handle, and they have held urgent meetings with officials in Washington.

US State Department sources said that there was as yet no "hard evidence" that the Cuban leader was again seeking to rid his country of troublemakers, although the Pan American Games in Cuba in August gave him a motive for doing so. They do believe, however, that he is relaxing travel restrictions as a "safety valve" as his country endures its worst economic problems since the 1959 revolution that brought him to power. The Soviet Union's aid to Cuba has been drastically reduced.

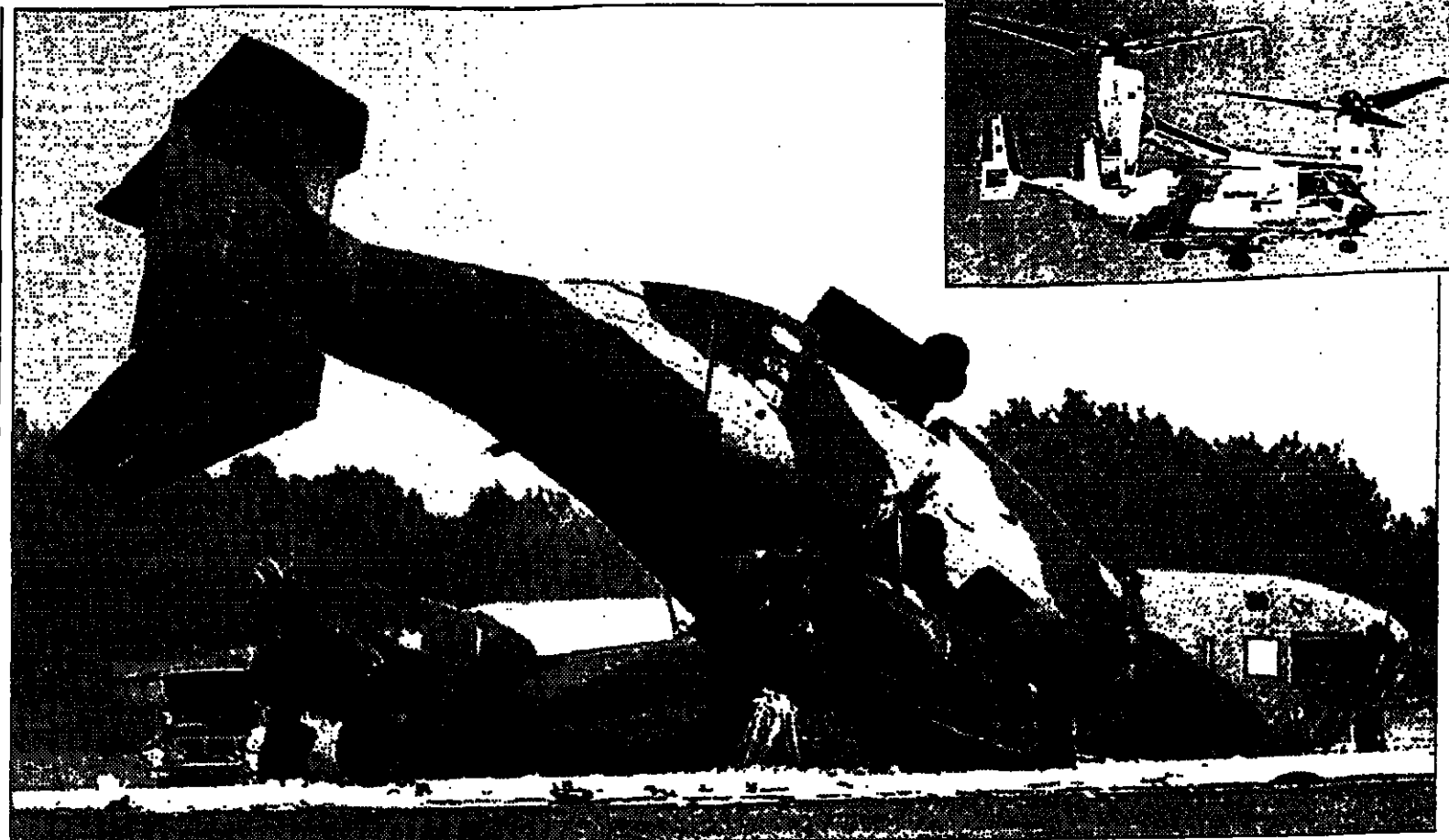
The administration does not want a sudden, uncontrolled mass exodus to the United States, still less if unsavoury elements are included and the purpose is to help the Castro government. Michael Kozak, the deputy assistant secretary of state, promised a congressional committee last week that Washington would take steps to prevent any repeat of the Mariel boat lift, although he did not say what these steps would be.

Castro: earning money from Cuban travellers

cargo boat from a Havana dock, and a Cuban pilot defected in a MiG fighter to Key West.

The Cuban government has also halved the age required to apply for tourist visas to the United States. The US State Department anticipates more than 80,000 Cuban applicants this year, compared to 38,000 in 1990, and will accept most of these, although about a third of the Cubans who visit the United States never go

American officials said there were practical as well as political reasons for the Cuban action. They estimate that the Castro government extracts nearly \$1,000 (£590) in exorbitant fees and taxes from each citizen seeking to travel to the United States, so relaxing travel restrictions generates badly needed hard currency. They also suggested that Cuban patrol boats lacked the fuel and spare parts necessary to prevent people leaving on rafts.



Flight flop: the wreckage of a V22 Osprey military plane, which can hover like a helicopter, lying at New Castle airport in Delaware. Both pilots walked away and one crew member had minor cuts after the experimental aircraft, which was 150ft in the air, came down and burst into flames

## Greece to expel PLO envoys

By MICHAEL EVANS  
DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

GREECE is to expel six Palestine Liberation Organisation officials holding diplomatic rank and 20 other Palestinians connected to a bomb explosion in April that killed seven people, police in Athens said yesterday.

The PLO diplomats, whose mission in Greece has the status of an embassy, were given eight days to leave Greece. The other 20, identified as students and workers, were all under arrest. The police said they would be expelled within 15 days.

Yassir Arafat, the PLO leader, has been trying to prevent the PLO being linked with the bomb incident, according to Western intelligence sources. The explosion on April 19 in the southern port city of Patras killed a Palestinian student and six Greeks.

## Troop pullout shatters Kurdish bliss

From ADAM KELLIEHER in AMADIYAH

THE peshmerga guerrillas had just finished eating a freshly slaughtered goat when they were told that the first British troops based in Amadiyah were going home.

Facing the armies of President Saddam Hussein again seemed a distant prospect at their camp, a picture of bliss with tents and rugs strewn beneath chestnut trees amid the rubble of a long-destroyed village. After lunch ended with cups of sweet tea, some young guerrillas went to swim in natural rock pools, an older, plumper member let out a loud belch before rolling over and falling asleep and the rebel leaders debated their future.

"If you don't believe we have a hard situation, change John Major with Saddam Hussein for five days," a man called Ahmad told me. "Send him to London, and then you will understand."

The peshmerga had hoped that the allied forces would extend the security zone throughout the Kurdish re-

gion and they could barely believe the decision to withdraw after the coalition had displayed so much commitment to getting the Kurdish refugees home. However, at nearby Amadiyah, a town that seems to grow from rocks to occupy the entire flat crown of a mountain, the soldiers of 4/5 Commando have largely finished the tasks they were sent to deal with and sun-bathing and volleyball have become the daily pursuits.

There is no doubting the depth of public adulation for the British troops, the mood being personified in the reaction to Lieutenant Rory Copinger-Symes, the humanitarian officer known variously as "the man who would be king", "Sir Rory", "Stone'em Brian" and "the mayor of Amadiyah". "Here comes Brian," said a burly Royal Marine, before doing an imitation of a biblical Monty Python mob as the lieutenant approached. "It's the messiah. Hail the messiah."

Strolling around Amadiyah with Lt Copinger-Symes is to be in the company of a social phenomenon. Children ran alongside shouting "Roar-ree, Roar-ree". An elderly man snapped to attention and saluted, asking in an aggrieved



voice: "Why haven't you been to my house for lunch?" The lieutenant earned the lofty reputation for his practical tactics in Amadiyah during the past five weeks. When the Royal Marines arrived, only about 300 Kurds lived there, along with about 20 soldiers, 20 secret police and

20 uniformed officers. The soldiers promptly marched out in a motley column and Saddam's spies were all bagged while huddled conspiratorially around a radio transmitter during the random search of a house. The police capitulated totally and retreated inside their station.

Amadiyah belonged to the Royal Marines, and Lieutenant Copinger-Symes, aged 26, a specialist in obliterating tanks, swiftly befriended any locals and was appointed to resurrect the town.

His strategy was to make sure the local people did all the work, so that when the British troops leave the residents can cope without the Royal Marines. The town, now occupied by 11,000 people, is functioning again, but there is still plenty to do in the area.

"Personally, I think it would be a great mistake for Britain to pull out at this time," Major Tim Gregory, of the commandos support company, said.

## Burning of Shia libraries reported

London — Reports from the Iraqi holy cities of Najaf and Karbala reaching Iraqi exiles yesterday said that Iraqi troops have begun a systematic campaign to destroy Shia libraries, theological schools and graveyards (Michael Binyon writes).

Public and private libraries containing a collection of rare and valuable religious books have been looted and burnt. Mosques and religious colleges have been razed. Many Shia clergy have been arrested, including an 89-year-old aide to the grand ayatollah, Sayid Murtaza al-Khalakani. His family is in prison.

Baghdad: Iraq has denied charges made by Iran that it was flying reconnaissance and bombing missions in the Shia Muslim south, and accused Iran of having territorial designs on Iraq. "There is no military operation under way in the south, as claimed by Iran and the trumpets of colonialist media," the Iraqi News Agency quoted Ahmad Hussein al-Khodair, the foreign minister, as saying. (Reuters)

## Baghdad visa

London — The wife of the British businessman Ian Richter, serving a life sentence in Baghdad, has been given a visa by the Iraqis to visit him for the first time since he was sentenced for corruption in 1986. The Soviet embassy in Baghdad will help Shirley Richter when she visits her husband next month.

## Husain better

Amman — King Husain of Jordan, aged 56, has recovered from an irregular heart beat and is expected to leave hospital by Friday, palace authorities said. Doctors said the main reason for his ailment was fatigue. (Reuters)

## Hostages hope

Beirut — Douglas Hogg, the foreign office minister, ended a three-day visit to Lebanon saying he was encouraged by the trend of developments, which could lead to the release of all the Western hostages.

Diary, page 18

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one thing.*

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## Volcano victims fear further eruptions

By NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR, AND VAUDINE ENGLAND IN MANILA

IN SPITE OF the huge explosions at Mount Pinatubo yesterday, volcanologists are far from certain that the main eruption is over.

The people of Angeles City, close to the volcano, are in a state of panic. As they watch vast clouds of ash and smoke rising three miles into the air and feel the heat on their skin, their fears have not been calmed by the sug-



Aquino visited refugees hours after eruptions

gestion that yet further huge eruptions may lie ahead.

Film footage of the eruptions and continuing evacuations show skies dark as night, the roads and countryside covered with ash. Those fleeing are stripped to the waist and their heads shrouded by scarves to cope with the heat and falling ash.

After yesterday's eruptions, the director of the government's office of civil defence for operations, Ernesto Rivera, said that the situation in the city was not yet considered critical. The original evacuation centres for villagers and mountain tribespeople, set up five days ago and brimming with more than 15,000 Filipinos, are, however, being moved.

"A dome of magma (molten rock) is getting bigger by the hour. We think this is not the main eruption. There is a strong probability a stronger eruption is coming," said Raymond Punongbayan, the country's chief volcanologist. President Aquino, who flew to Clark air base a few hours after the explosion to visit the refugee camps, was told by experts monitoring

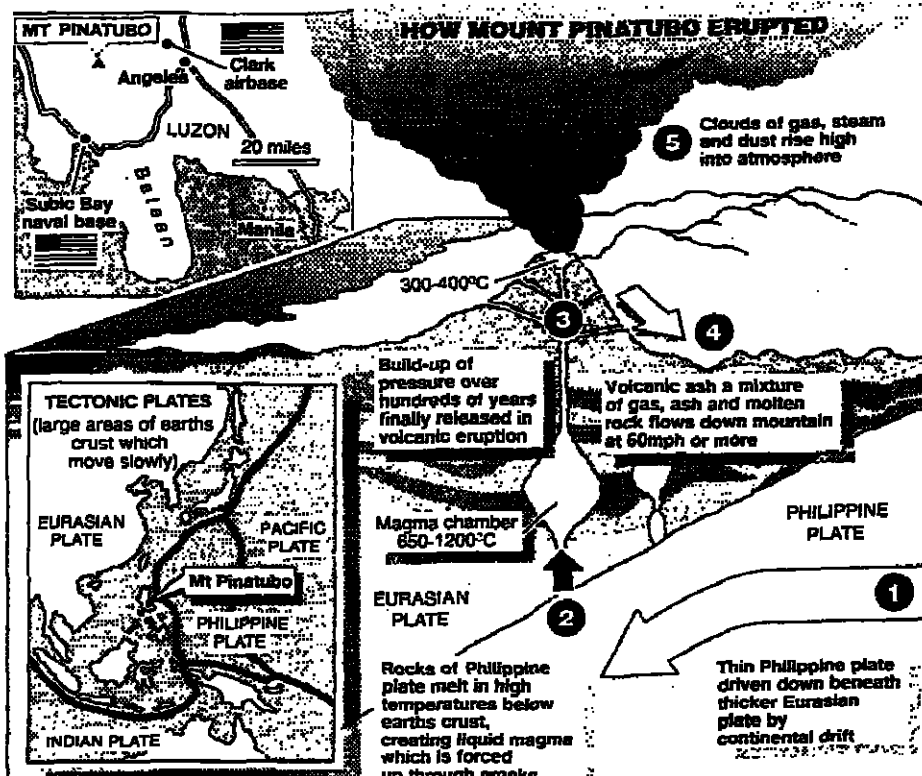
Pinatubo that it was building up for a stronger eruption.

Officials extended the danger zone to 18 miles from a previous 12-mile radius around the volcano, which lies 55 miles northwest of the capital, Manila.

Equally alarming changes have been observed at Mount Unzen, in Japan, where the cone of the volcano is expanding, a sure sign that another huge eruption may be imminent. "We fear a major explosion," Daisuke Shimozuru, a member of the Tokyo government's earthquake and volcano prediction council, said yesterday.

"The measurements on the clinographs (instruments for recording the changing angles of the sides of the volcano) may indicate increased magma pressure from inside the earth. It shows that Unzen's activity is building up," Mr Shimozuru said.

The Japanese authorities yesterday stopped short of ordering a total evacuation of Shimabara peninsula, site of Mount Unzen, about 620 miles southwest of Tokyo. It



ordered 180,000 people to remain home as the volcano rained chunks of lava on towns up to five miles away. Unzen erupted twice last week, killing at least 38 people, and forcing the evacuation of 10,000 residents from its foothills.

By yesterday evening Unzen's activity - which at noon had reached an alarming intensity that continued for an hour - had subsided. "There is no fear of a big

explosion at this specific stage," Kosuke Kamo, head of the earthquake and volcano council, said. But people were still urged to monitor news bulletins.

Volcanoes that erupt at very infrequent intervals, such as Unzen and Pinatubo, do so in a different way from regular performers like the Hawaiian volcanoes. The Hawaiian rocks are rich in sulphur and iron and when molten flow easily and allow

gases to escape. This produces a steady flow of lava which advances slowly.

The less permeable rocks in Japan and the Philippines create a build-up of pressure that can be released only explosively. The problem is knowing whether the pressure has been released sufficiently to allow the volcanoes to subside into inactivity again. So far, the evidence suggests that this has not yet happened.

## Food stocks in Ethiopia down to danger level

By MICHAEL BINYON, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

FOOD convoys have begun to move again from the Ethiopian port of Asab, but relief agencies have given a warning that food stocks are down to dangerously low levels in Ethiopia and other African countries facing famine.

The aid routes taken by relief lorries have been disrupted by the fighting and turmoil in Ethiopia in the past three weeks. As a result, little food is getting through to the worst-hit region in Ogaden, where more than 100 people are now reported to be dying every day. On Tuesday nine United Nations lorries carrying 270 tonnes of food set out from Asab for northern Wollo and Tigré.

Oxfam, the biggest British relief agency, yesterday gave a warning that the relief pipeline was drying up, largely because the European Community has still not shipped 400,000 tonnes of food promised more than two months ago. Frank Judd, the director, is seeking talks with Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, before the meeting of EC foreign ministers on Monday.

He wants Mr Hurd to urge his colleagues to cut through the bureaucracy and arguments in Brussels over who will arrange and pay for shipping the food. Contracts have just gone out to tender, and at least six weeks are needed for shipping. Mr Judd will also see Manuel Marin, the commissioner responsible for Africa, next month.

He is also to meet Javier Pérez de Cuellar, the United Nations secretary-general, in New York next week to press for a revival of the Office for Emergency Operations in Africa. This agency was set up in January 1985 to respond to the earlier famine and drought and co-ordinate international relief. It was disbanded in November 1986 on the understanding that it could be re-established if need arose.

After touring Ethiopia and Sudan, Mr Judd said in a letter

last month that the conflict now affecting the region was such co-ordination more important than ever. Señor Pérez de Cuellar has been lukewarm to the proposal, saying the UN already has enough resources and bodies to cope. But Oxfam, in co-ordination with other big British relief agencies, insists that the efforts of the international community must be better synchronised and focused.

Oxfam hopes that the change of government in Ethiopia and the end to the fighting in Eritrea will make distribution easier in the worst affected areas. In Sudan distribution is hampered by a lack of fuel and continuing conflict. The Khartoum government is pressing Britain to allow the sale of replacement parts for the largely immobilised rail system, which, if functioning, could quickly move the supplies rotting in Port Sudan.

## Burkina's military regime ends



Compaore called meeting of 17 political parties

Ouagadougou - Captain Blaise Compaore, the military ruler of Burkina Faso, dissolved his revolutionary government and called a round-table meeting of the country's 17 political parties yesterday.

He called for national reconciliation and the adoption of a new constitution approved in a referendum 10 days ago. The constitution separates the executive, the legislature and the judiciary. Presidential elections are to be held in November and general elections in December. (AFP)

## Storm deaths

Peking - At least 12 people were killed and buildings and communications were damaged during the heaviest rainfall recorded in Peking this century. The storm, on Monday, destroyed 653 homes and flooded nearly 3,000 acres of farmland. (AP)

## Violence cure

Johannesburg - Three white South African youths, aged 15, 16 and 17, who beat a black man to death, have been sentenced to 1,200 hours of community service at an animal charity and five years of therapy treatment. (Reuters)

## US 'seizes donation' to ANC

From MICHAEL HARTNACK IN HARARE

NELSON Mandela, the deputy president of the African National Congress, was yesterday said to be "infuriated" by the American seizure of a \$1 million (£600,000) donation sent to him by Colonel Gaddafi of Libya.

The Herald, a Zimbabwe daily newspaper, reported that the money was sent in March via Barclays Bank Zimbabwe to the ANC's account with the National Westminster Bank in London. A few days later Barclays said the money had been frozen by the American Express Company, although how the firm became involved was not explained. Both Libya and the ANC have asked Harare to resolve the matter.

NEW YORK NOTEBOOK by Charles Bremner

## Hell on wheels with the blade runners

Until the past few months, the main risk when crossing the street in Manhattan came not from muggers or stray bullets but from the yellow taxi cabs. However, the onset of summer has brought a new hazard: Rollerbladers.

These are practitioners of "in-line skating" as America's fastest-growing new sport is officially known.



Blades have four high-tech wheels in a single line set under moulded, multi-coloured boots, and enable the meekest beginner to skim silently at speeds of 30 miles per hour or more - ideal transport for the congested streets of Manhattan. Used at first by daring young messengers, blades have been quickly adopted by disillusioned joggers and

aging yuppies eager for a last burst of aerobic adrenalin. Executives, accountants and dentists in their 30s and 40s can be glimpsed going up the avenues with briefcases on their backs, weaving through the traffic. Inevitably, the craze has got out of hand and hospitals are reporting a rash of casualties, both innocent pedestrians and inept bladers. Now the city has set a 15mph speed limit.

Rollerblade Inc, the Minnesota company which developed them originally for off-season cross-country skiers and ice skaters, is imploring the country's one million enthusiasts to take lessons, wear crash helmets and honour the rules of the road.

Blading has moved on from a quirky fad to full-scale mania, complete with how-to books, a multi-million-dollar accessory industry and, of course, lawyers specialising in blade issues. Bladers' rights may first reach the courts thanks to a decision by the Brooklyn education board. This ordered Michael Levine, a teacher, aged 46, to stop wearing his blades during lessons. He believes the board is infringing his right to glide up and down the aisles of his classes at Brooklyn College of Education.

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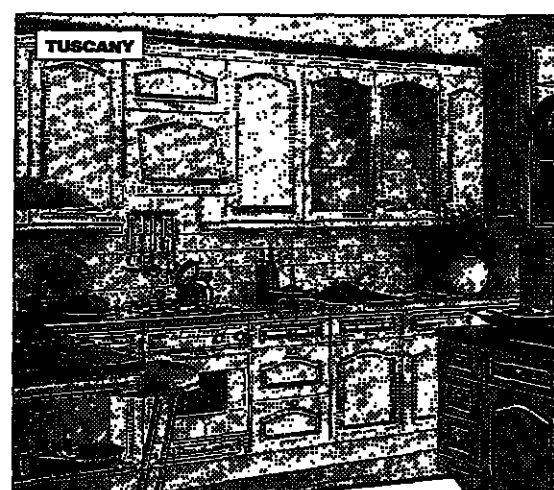
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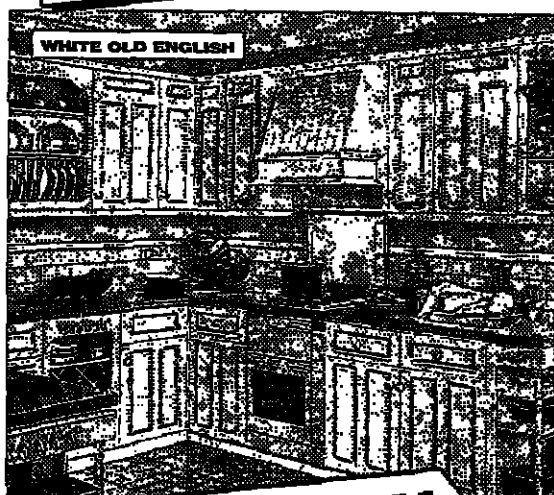
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# Congress braced for leadership struggle as it heads for power

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN DELHI

INDIAN voters, battered by monsoons and subjected to extreme summer heat, turned out in small numbers for the resumption of the general election yesterday. Even caste armies seemed to lack the energy to fight, making the day surprisingly violence-free. Voting had been postponed for three weeks after Rajiv Gandhi's assassination. The third and final day of voting is on Saturday, indications of the result are expected late Sunday or early Monday.

An opinion poll in *The Times of India* yesterday showed Congress (I) likely to win an outright majority on the strength of sympathy over Gandhi's killing. All previous surveys have put the party short of a clear victory.

The determination to make Gandhi's widow, Sonia, part of the election campaign took on almost comic proportions yesterday when a row broke out over a letter she wrote to P.V. Narasimha Rao, the party president, several days ago. Referring to Gandhi, she spoke in the letter of "his

beloved country". But another version appeared on the front page of *The Times of India* in which she supposedly spoke of "our beloved country". The Congress party, it seems, altered the original letter, almost certainly without prior approval from Mrs Gandhi.

She is also being quoted on posters appealing for voters' support. She did not approve that, either. And in another bizarre development loud-speaker vans are touring northern India broadcasting a tape-recorded appeal to voters purporting to come from Gandhi's daughter, Priyanka, aged 19. This, too, is almost certainly a fraud.

Voting yesterday was conducted in 113 constituencies of the 500-odd being contested. The broad outcome seems clear: with or without help, Congress is likely to head the next government, but first it must choose a parliamentary leader. This could turn into a fight between northern states, which traditionally dominate national politics, and southern India, which

now forms the backbone of Congress's strength. If it is forced into a coalition, its partners will also need to be consulted about the choice. The Gandhi coterie which maintained a stranglehold over the party apparatus will fight to have its choice of leader installed, while younger leaders are insisting on a secret ballot among MPs.

Congress may be well placed to strengthen its position in the free atmosphere of the post-Gandhi era. Power has been highly centralised for years, leaving the organisation all but dead at the grassroots. It has not held internal elections for two decades, but there is little doubt that the party will now have to introduce internal democracy.

The incoming government's priority will be the ailing economy and drawing up a budget. A substantial International Monetary Fund loan is regarded as inevitable, perhaps coupled with a substantial devaluation of the rupee. It will also have to deal with disintegrating law and order.



Poll position: Muslim women squeezing between the barrier and a line of male voters at a polling station in Mured Nager, in the north Indian state of Uttar Pradesh, yesterday. Many districts held general election polls for a second time after vote-rigging and violence last month.

## Ershad sent to jail for 10 years

FROM ARMED FAZL IN DHAKA

A SPECIAL tribunal in Bangladesh sentenced former President Ershad to ten years' imprisonment with hard labour yesterday, dashing the ousted military leader's hopes of staging a comeback.

General Ershad, aged 61, was convicted on charges of keeping, during his eight years in power, eight unlicensed firearms and ammunition in his official residence inside the Dhaka military garrison. The general, looking pale, denied



Ershad: intends to appeal against tribunal verdict

the charge and said the four revolvers and four shotguns were gifts from President Saddam Hussein of Iraq and other Arab leaders during state visits.

After Judge Muhammad Habibullah read out the 30-page judgment, which bars him from holding any public office, the general said he would appeal against the verdict. The stiff sentence was widely expected as General Ershad, who won five parliamentary districts in the country's general elections last February, was recovering ground and becoming a threat to his political adversaries.

The verdict, which came after a four-month trial by the tribunal, was greeted by students exploding fire crackers, while supporters of the general's Jatiyo party battled with police and 30 pro-Ershad deputies boycotted parliament.

## Srinagar curfew enforced by army

AN INDEFINITE curfew was imposed by the Indian government in most parts of the Kashmir city of Srinagar and the army was sent in to enforce it yesterday after security forces killed at least 28 people (Our Foreign Staff writes).

The Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front, the Hizbul-Mujahedin, and other militant groups fighting for Kashmir's secession called a strike yesterday throughout the Kashmir valley to protest at the killings, mostly of civilians, in the old city section on Tuesday night. The battle between troops and militants was the bloodiest urban incident this year in a campaign against Indian rule of the country's only Muslim-majority state.

Shops, government offices and banks closed their doors as a mark of respect to the dead.

## Burmese held

Bangkok — Burma's military rulers have arrested four members of the main opposition National League for Democracy, whom they say had links with armed rebels. The league won last year's general election but the military has refused to hand over power and has arrested most of its leaders. (Reuters)

## Hospital sued

Tokyo — The parents of Junko Yoshida, a student nurse who died of heart failure last year, filed a lawsuit in Fukui, central Japan, against the hospital where she worked. They are claiming 66.7 million yen (£384,000), saying she was worked to death. (Reuters)

## On the run

Columbia, Missouri — An inmate at the Jefferson City correctional centre escaped from a clinic where he had just been given artificial legs, but was recaptured later. Fred Silva, aged 48, lost his legs after he suffered frostbite during an earlier escape attempt. (AP)

## Hawke fined for not belting up on TV

FROM ROBERT COCKBURN IN SYDNEY

BOB Hawke, the Australian prime minister, yesterday received an \$Aus100 (about £45) traffic ticket after thousands of television viewers complained he was not wearing his seat belt in the official limousine.

On his first public outing since fending off a leadership challenge last week, Mr Hawke was forced to apologise in front of noisy school-children in Queensland after giving the in-car television interview without his belt on. Last week Mr Hawke was apologising for misleading Australians over his intention to stay on as prime minister after the last election.

By yesterday, however, he had turned his latest misdeed into a humorous public relations exercise, showing the public, if not all members of his Labor party, that he has not lost all of his



Hawke: forced to make second public apology

winning charm. Behind a sheepish grin, he endured the jeers of children. Asked by one child if he or the taxpayer would be paying his fine, Mr Hawke laughed: "I am sorry about this and I'm paying my fine. It was me that made the mistake, no one else."

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## Barclays Bank and small businesses.

A message to our customers from Sir John Quinton, Chairman of the Bank.

Over the past few weeks the banks have been criticised in the press and on television over their service to small businesses.

In particular, interest margins and the banks' willingness to support small businesses through the recession have been questioned.

Yesterday, I spoke to the Chancellor of the Exchequer to put the Barclays point of view, and to confirm our commitment to serving small businesses.



Today, I'd like to speak directly to you, our small business customers.

Firstly, let me say that small businesses are vitally important to us. In fact, last year we supported the formation of around a quarter of all new small businesses. In the long term, Barclays will only succeed by helping our small business customers prosper, and by providing you with the highest possible level of service.

The present recession has meant that many of you face financial difficulties and our managers and Business Bankers are working flat out to help you through these difficult times.

We have invested heavily in the training and development of our staff so that they are better able to understand the special requirements of small businesses.

On the question of interest rates, I would like to say that there is no collusion whatsoever between the big banks. Most of you will be borrowing at interest rates directly linked to base rate, and we immediately pass on to you interest reductions resulting from changes in base rates. As base rates move up or down, so the interest charged to you changes by exactly the same amount.

Having said that, there are times when we renegotiate margins with our customers. Where margins are increased it is generally because the circumstances of the borrower have changed, leading to increased risk for the Bank.

This process works two ways, with some of our customers negotiating reductions in interest margins. Indeed, over the last few years, whilst the economy has been buoyant, the average margin charged on our lendings has steadily reduced.

Inevitably, in this recession some businesses will fail, but it is in nobody's interest, least of all the business community's, for us to support businesses beyond the point at which their survival ceases to be a realistic proposition.

At Barclays, we recognise that running a business is both difficult and demanding and we believe it's important to continue to support small businesses through the current recession. We presently lend nearly £12 billion to small businesses.

We remain dedicated and committed to our small business customers.



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*Sir John Quinton*

## Slow start to voting as holiday mood sets in

## Russia polls fail to rouse Muscovites

From MARY DEJEVSKY IN MOSCOW

MOSCOW barely stirred when polling stations opened at 8am yesterday. The day of the Russian Federation's first presidential election was decreed a public holiday, and Muscovites were either sleeping in or already on the road to their country dachas to avoid the city's steamy heat.

"I think most people gave themselves an extra hour or so in bed," said the electoral commission secretary at the polling station where Valentin Pavlov, the Soviet prime minister, was due to vote. "We had hardly anyone before about 10." Mr Pavlov turned up at the handsome House of

Architects building in a silent quarter of central Moscow in mid-afternoon.

At presidential candidate Boris Yeltsin's polling station, a youth centre in a rundown square by one of the main railway stations, fewer than half of the registered voters had appeared before 3pm, but a late surge was expected when people started returning from their dachas. "A difficult area," said the chairman.

The turnout was much the same at candidate Vadim Bakatin's polling station - but the two areas had little else in common. Mr Bakatin's polling station was a school set between high-rise flats in a leafy corner of tranquility close to the city centre. Even without the prowling police, the quality of construction and air of seclusion gave the area an exclusive feel. This is where the apparition lives, and no amount of money will buy entry, only the right job and right connections.

Mr Bakatin's neighbours, so they said at the polling station, include the chairman of the Soviet parliament, Anatoli Lukyanov. He was one of the few up and early to vote before leaving for London.

Moscow continued to be quiet all day. There were no vans with loudspeakers touring the streets - campaigning on polling day is forbidden - and no street hoardings urging people to vote for one or other candidate. The Yeltsin posters which had been plastered on city centre walls in recent days were still in evidence.

Mr Yeltsin's chief rival, Nikolai Ryzhkov, cast his vote at polling station number three, a large and old school building, surrounded by trees near the centre, which was thoroughly staked out by security personnel for the occasion. After posing for the ritual voting pictures so beloved of Soviet leaders before elections meant anything, Mr Ryzhkov and his wife, Lyudmila, emerged to talk to the crowd.

"I don't mind telling you that I voted for Nikolai Ivanovich Ryzhkov," said his politically adept wife, adding, "I made my choice 30 years ago and it was no mistake."

## Wavering sense of identity

From BRUCE CLARK IN LENINGRAD

THE PEOPLE of Leningrad, who voted yesterday in an historic referendum on the city's name, have thrown out the bathwater of Soviet communism in its current form; but many are still hesitant about casting aside the baby's communist traditions.

That was the impression to emerge from polling stations across the city, from the glorious but crumbling centre to the new suburbs of jerry-built tower blocks surrounded by weeds. The city's voters were given three ballot papers: one to choose their Russian president, another to select an executive mayor, and a third, printed in rather pretentious archaic script, invited them to say "yes" if they favoured reversion to the historic name of St Petersburg.

To judge by straw polls, a big majority plumped for Boris Yeltsin as president. Most also preferred the incumbent city council president, the reformist Anatoli Sobchak, over Yuri Stepanov, his communist rival. But opinion on the name change was more finely balanced.



Stony gaze: a statue of Lenin, the founder of the Soviet state, stands guard as an old woman votes yesterday in the first direct election for the presidency of Russia

## EMU rumpus shows up dilemma

From GEORGE BROCK IN BRUSSELS

THE rumpus at Westminster over European monetary and political union has obscured rather than clarified the dilemma Britain faces at the next two European Community summits.

The Luxembourg summit, at the end of June, may be less of an ordeal after the accord by Helmut Kohl, the German chancellor, with John Major to "slow the pace" on union. But by the time the Maastricht summit is held in early December, the pressures will be building.

The EC's policy-making Commission, chaired by Jacques Delors, has had a disappointing year. M Delors' federalist ideas have been sidelined by the national governments. The concept of political union is littered with deadlocked issues on majority voting, social and welfare legislation, extension of EC powers and foreign and defence policies. If anything is going to provoke a British "no" it is this.

By contrast a blueprint on a single currency has been thrashed out. A delicately-balanced compromise, forced by a cautious Germany, foresees more measured and more open-ended convergence than M Delors originally prescribed. M Delors would like to wrap up the whole process during the autumn without being halted by an undecided British government. The deteriorating world economic condition and the turning of the German public mood against its own economic unification make this task urgent.

So M Delors proposed a compromise for Britain which he hoped would eliminate some of his difficulties. Britain would be given a special delay clause: a new House of Commons could be elected before a treaty was ratified in exchange for an assurance that it would not obstruct other countries.

Yet this proposal has not yet been written down. The Treasury assumes that if it were to be put on paper and accepted, British leverage inside the treaty negotiation would be destroyed.

No formal timetable was ever laid down for either negotiation. Informally, governments agreed that new treaties should be in force by the end of the single market programme at the end of 1992. To allow time for national parliaments to ratify the texts, documents would need to be signed by heads of government in Maastricht.



Delors: his ideas have been sidelined

## Cresson tackles violence

From REUTER IN PARIS

EDITH Cresson, the French prime minister, presented an emergency plan yesterday to defuse tension in France's working-class suburbs after a policewoman and an Arab were killed at the weekend.

Addressing parliament, she promised 1,000 extra jobs and clear instructions for the police, who complain of being ordered to stay out of run-down suburbs with high immigrant populations and then being blamed for failure to enforce the law.

Treading a tightrope between liberals who say suburban crime is a result of inequality and unemployment and right-wingers who say the Socialist government is too soft, Mme Cresson also announced a summer-camp youth training scheme. About 300,000 disadvantaged young people, many the children of Arab immigrants from North Africa, will be offered training with the army, fire-fighters or charities.

There is now open speculation however that neither treaty will be completed by Christmas. Jacques Poos, foreign minister in the Luxembourg government now holding the EC presidency, said recently that elections might drag the process out. He did not name the British, but that is where all eyes are fixed. Mr Major may be saved if the momentum of treaty talks eases and the showdown at Maastricht evaporates.

## Romania relives protests

From TIM JUDAH IN BUCHAREST

A YEAR ago today, the Romanian security forces ended an anti-government demonstration that had blocked the centre of Bucharest for seven weeks. The riots that followed precipitated the government's call to 10,000 miners who destroyed its reputation and shattered the sympathy that the world had shown the country following its anti-communist revolution.

They rampaged through the city attacking anyone they suspected of being sympathetic to the opposition and apparently under the direction of members of the old - or new - Securitate secret police, they pillaged the headquarters of opposition parties.

Internationally, Romania is still living the consequences of this act, but domestically the visit of the miners seems an age ago. Prime Minister Petre Roman's government is gradually pushing through a tough package of reform measures and officials say that western countries refuse to see how things have changed.

Letters, page 19

## Berlin 'spy' is arrested

Bonn - An East German who served for 11 years in Bonn as chief secretary to Martin Bangemann, now vice president of the European Commission, has been arrested at his home near Berlin and charged with spying for the Stasi (Ian Murray writes). Identified only as "Frau Johanna O.", aged 64, she is alleged to have crossed to West Germany in 1967 with secret instructions to infiltrate the Free Democrats (FDP), who were then in a coalition government.

## Agency audit

Paris - Britain, which left Unesco in 1986 citing mismanagement and anti-Western bias, is to pay for an efficiency study at the educational, scientific and cultural agency. The agency spends 80 per cent of its £228 million budget on wages. (Reuter)

## Slippery slope

Strasbourg - The European Parliament appealed for action to curtail the 'skiing season' to save the Alps and surrounding woodland from being eroded by the 100 million visitors who go there each year. (Reuter)

## Albanian refugees die in boat shooting

From PAUL BOMPARD IN ROME AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

TWO Albanians were killed by gunfire and four others wounded on a fishing boat carrying 30 refugees that reached Italy from Albania yesterday, Italian port officials said. Those on board said the boat was fired on by Albanian coastal patrols as it attempted the crossing to Italy.

Earlier two Italian ferry boats picked up 317 Albanians from rafts and flimsy boats trying to cross the Adriatic and took them to Ancona. Italian coastguard helicopters yesterday sighted yet more groups of rafts floating between Albania and the southern Italian coast.

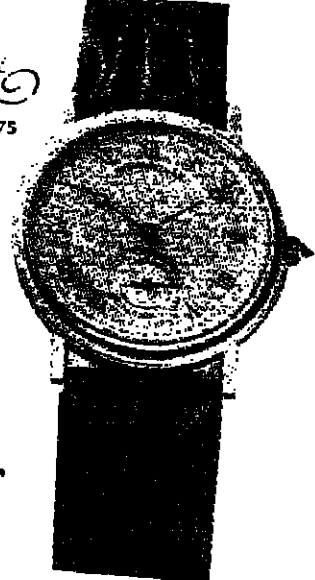
By late yesterday about 600 Albanians had been rescued by passing ships while many were still at sea. Only 46, those picked up by the navy, were allowed to disembark and the rest were being confined to the

ships that picked them up. There was also growing suspicion that southern Italian smugglers with speed boats were being paid by the Albanians to tow their rafts away from the Albanian coast.

More than 20,000 Albanians sailed to Italy in a mass exodus last March. Since then small groups have been making the trip nearly every day. In southern Italy, tension was mounting over the continued presence of the refugees who arrived in the March exodus. Despite government promises, only a small minority have been moved to other parts of the country.

A group of mayors from the Puglia region yesterday told Rome that if nothing is done by June 20 they will simply order the Albanians out of their municipalities and let them fend for themselves.

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Ann Kent checks into plans to allow patients to stay in hotels rather than hospitals



Room service: three of the 24 patients who had cataract surgery in the West Midlands recently, staying in a hotel with medical care provided

## Treated like guests

Most of us do not expect to share a bedroom or bathroom with strangers — until we go into hospital. Then, unless we are on a private health scheme, we trade our privacy for what we hope will be excellent medical treatment.

But the experience of being a hospital patient is likely to change dramatically in the next few years. Instead of looking on to a ward, many people can expect to book into a hotel room, with ensuite bathroom, television and even a sofa bed for visiting relatives. Each room will have an alarm bell to summon the duty nurse. Usually the patient will need to walk only a few yards into the main hospital building for treatment. When they are hungry, they can wander down to the restaurant which, like all the other facilities, is free.

The first patient hotel of the Nineties is likely to be built on the site of a former nurses' home in the grounds of the Western Infirmary, Glasgow. The English health authorities are not far behind. The Churchill hospital, Oxford, is drawing up plans; South Birmingham and Newcastle Royal Infirmary are considering the scheme.

Although all the health service managers emphasise how much better the hotel will be for the patient who needs regular hospital treatment but is not ill enough to occupy a bed, the real motivator is money.

Michael Addison, the unit general manager at the Churchill hospital, says: "It costs £80,000 a year to provide one nurse on a 24-hour, 365 days a year basis. Yet many patients do not need this kind of nursing care, and would

be much happier in a hotel, which is about a third of the cost. The savings would allow us to treat more people, which will reduce the waiting lists."

Research carried out at Oxford's John Radcliffe hospital revealed that beds were occupied by patients needing medical, nursing or life support care for only 38 per cent of the time.

Plans for the Western Infirmary's hospital hotel are likely to be placed before the health board for approval next month. Laurence Peterken, the general manager of Greater Glasgow Health Board, has asked the five other hospitals in the board's area to look into the feasibility of providing patient hotels. "We are not experts in hotel management, so the contractor who is chosen will both build and run the facility himself," he says.

The new hotel, offering 64 bedrooms, should free beds currently occupied by patients who come long distances for daily radiotherapy treatment (for cancer); those who are recovering from eye operations; and possibly patients who are brought in for diagnostic tests over several days.

Dr Fergus Macbeth, a consultant oncologist at the Western Infirmary, says that his radiotherapy patients will benefit from the pleasant surroundings of the hotel. But he adds: "This is also a cost-saving exercise, and we have been told we have to lose 24 of our acute beds to get 20 beds in the hotel for our patients."

Sam Galbraith, Labour's Scottish health spokesman, says: "I am in

favour of good residential accommodation where patients can recover in private, eat what they like, go out for a beer and turn up at the main part of the hospital for treatment when they are needed — provided it is not used as an excuse to reduce the number of acute beds. But these facilities should be owned by the hospital. If you contract out of this aspect of patient care where will it end?"

At the Churchill, Mr Addison admits it is inevitable that some acute beds will be lost. But each of his hospital departments has freedom to spend and operate its own budget in what staff feel is the best interests of the patients. "Offering hotel beds allows them to be more competitive," he says.

In a recent survey, the Churchill discovered that one in five of patients occupying hospital beds would have been better housed in an adjacent hotel. These included cancer patients, those being treated for skin conditions, and those being assessed before surgery. Other candidates for hotel beds include patients who are suitable for day surgery, but who live too far away to benefit.

Oxford city council recently turned down the hospital's outline for a patient hotel, but said it was prepared to consider a more detailed proposal. Since then, Mr Addison says, he has had a series of phone calls from contractors eager to construct and operate the 50 to 100-bed building.

Stuart Dickens, the chief executive of South Birmingham health authority, is also contemplating a patient hotel. "Some people will say we are just looking for low-cost solutions, but I am convinced that for certain categories of patient a hotel offers a much better deal."

But you do not need to build a hotel to provide patients with hotel facilities. Robin Lawson is the campaigns director of Impact, a charity which fights on behalf of people waiting for eye surgery. He and his colleagues persuade hospitals with long waiting lists to "blitz them" with intensive operating sessions, often at weekends. Mr Lawson says many old people with cataracts are not offered day surgery because they are frail or lack home support. Impact bridges the gap by accommodating patients in local hotels, before and after their surgery. "If anything goes wrong there is a nurse available in the hotel to assess their condition," he says.

*'Many patients would be much happier in a hotel'*

### MEDICAL BRIEFING Dr Thomas Stuttford

## Deaf to the risks?

THE charge made in the Consumers' Association journal *Which? Way to Health*, that too many children have grommets fitted to treat glue ear, disappointed doctors who have campaigned to ensure that a child's temperament and education are not damaged by partial deafness.

Mr Garfield Davies, a consultant ENT surgeon at UCH and the Middlesex hospitals in London, says: "It is silly to generalise in this way. There may be the occasional doctor who rushes a child into surgery, but I would have thought that these sentiments were the remarks of somebody who hasn't seen enough drums damaged by neglect."

Glue ear, secretory otitis media, is the accumulation of a sticky fluid behind the eardrum, usually as a result of a blocked Eustachian tube, or an inadequately treated acute ear infection. The presence of the fluid prevents the eardrum from vibrating properly, and in consequence the child suffers from deafness associated with a dull earache and a sense of the ear being blocked. From time to time



the sticky fluid becomes infected and the child will experience acute pain.

Surgery is simple. A small plastic drain, the grommet, is inserted through the drum so that the pressure is equal on both sides of it and the fluid is able to drain away. The grommet is usually extruded spontaneously within six to 12 months.

Mr Davies says: "The serous fluid is a persistent sump of infection which needs drainage, but even so we don't resort to surgery at

the drop of a hat. Often there is evidence of an allergy or an infection which will respond to treatment, so that over a period of two or three months the fluid drains spontaneously, but if the condition persists active treatment is needed."

Many doctors will share the anxiety of the spokesman from the National Deaf Children's Society who said that, if left untreated, many children will suffer, both socially and educationally.

### Nature's poisons

AT ANY time of the year doctors are liable to have to deal with poisoning from plants or fungi. Plant poisoning in adults is usually found in back-to-nature enthusiasts who have unwisely supped suspect herbal teas, or included the wrong plants in their salads.

Late summer and autumn are the peak periods for plant poisoning, when the victims are usually children who have eaten berries or seeds; laburnum, yew, deadly nightshade and conkers are the common culprits. This year the poison season started early with a weekend report that one company has inadvertently included deadly nightshade with its frozen beans; these have been withdrawn from sale.

Deadly nightshade poisoning causes blurred vision with dilated pupils, intense thirst, a dry, flushed skin, an inability to pass urine and initially a slowed



heart rate, which later starts to race. Eventually the patient suffers hallucinations, coma and death. Treatment is admission to hospital for stomach wash-out, and a physostigmine drip which is the antidote. Valium is used to control the convulsions.

The root and leaves of belladonna (deadly nightshade) have been used medicinally for centuries. The root is applied as belladonna plaster to ease rheumatic aches and pains, and was once the favoured treatment for sore, lactating breasts. Suppositories are also made from the root and have been used in the past for piles and fissures.

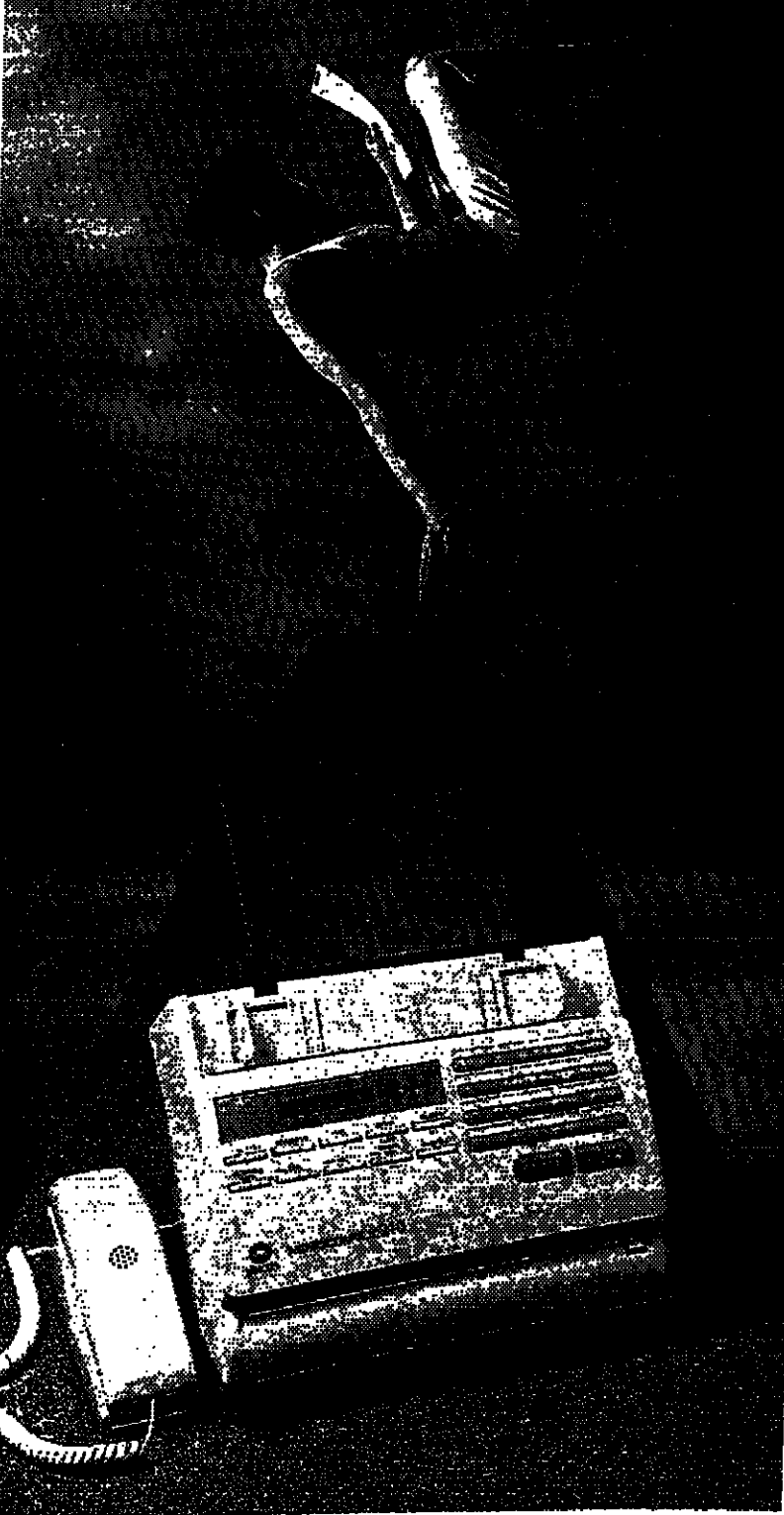
### Babies and fish

THE comparative lack of interest in fish as a gourmet food was bemoaned by Loyd Grossman and his guests on *Masterchef* recently, but its value in the prevention of heart disease, and possibly as an adjunct in the treatment of some form of skin trouble and arthritis, is becoming widely accepted.

The *International Journal of Epidemiology* has published a new Danish study of more than 12,000 pregnancies which has shown that the more fish a pregnant woman eats each month, the greater the weight of her baby and the size of its head.

This study, by Dr Sjurdrud Olsen, confirms the early work of Dr Michael Crawford of the Royal Zoological Society, who demonstrated that the incidence of babies with low birth weight was lower in women whose diet was rich in unsaturated fats.

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## Past tense death

PAPERBACKS

Lisanne Radice

PAST RECKONING

By June Thomson

Corgi, £3.50

ADMIT TO MURDER

By Margaret Yorke

Arrow, £3.99

CLEVER June Thomson for producing, in *Past Reckoning*, a tale which is so quintessentially English, so complex, yet so subtly gentle in approach. A rural Essex shining in the glow of an Indian summer provides the perfect setting. An eccentric curator of a museum dedicated to the work of her dead writer brother is murdered, with no obvious motive. Nina, a warm-hearted heroine caught up in poignant memories of the past, gets involved in the murder hunt. The characters and places, as one expects from this writer, are meticulously observed, from the quiet beginning when the leading players are skilfully introduced to the unassuming probing of Detective Chief Inspector Jack Finch. The apparent innocence of a shared childhood entangles the main characters in a cobweb of deceit, which leads to blackmail and murder.

Margaret Yorke specialises in presenting ordinary lives where complex emotions are hidden beneath ostensibly straightforward and uncomplicated appearances. *Admit to Murder* tells of the shattering impact the disappearance in 1976 of Louise Vaughan, beloved and gentle daughter of Susan and George, has had on her well-to-do middle-class family. Twelve years on, Detective Superintendent Marsh returns to head the division where, as a young sergeant, he had first become involved in the search for the missing young woman. The events are narrated by the main actors: the blinkered Susan; Louise's adopted brother, a psychopathic bully; and Norah, companion, friend, and observant underdog. The plot unravels slowly as each of them records their own version of the truth.



Angela Carter with a Shakespearean rag, all singing, dancing, performing, falling around, going, coming (in both senses), definitely misbehaving

## Roars of grease-paint

Victoria Glendinning reviews a showbiz extravaganza of our life and stage

What a joy it is to dance and sing! Identical twins Nora and Dora, raddled 75-year-old ex-chorines, reminisce in the basement of a house in Brixton surrounded by signed photos of the stars. With them is another old bag, known as Wheelchair because she is in a wheelchair. She is the once-lovely Lady Alalanta, first wife of Sir Melchior Hazard, the greatest Shakespearean actor of our time. All three are preparing to attend his hundredth birthday party. Nora and Dora are the sadly rejected daughters of the great man. In his humbler, younger days, he had taken to bed the skivvy in the Brixton boarding house. It's a wise child who knows his own father — or mother. Dora, like an ancient mariner, launches into the family saga.

*Wise Children* is Shakespearean ragtime. There are five sets of twins involved, several mistaken identities and denied paternities (and even maternities), some cheerful incest, and at least four generations of showbiz personalities, starting grandly with Sir Melchior's Edwardian actor-manager father, and petering out with

minor Hazards: a game-show host and a TV cook. Angela Carter is Cecil B. de Mille and Busby Berkeley in one, creating huge set-pieces with large casts of oddities falling around, emoting, creating havoc. "So there was an organic aspect to this night of disaster..." We'd noticed. Dora presents the world as a stage set and life as a costume drama.

There is a sad tug of real emotion beneath the manic stage-struck mayhem — "What lark!" — which derives from everyone's childlike fairy-tale quest for loving parents. There is a happy ending of a kind for septuagenarian Nora and Dora, who turn up at their famous father's birthday party at the end of the book looking like the wrath of God, painted up to the eyes and wearing mini-skirts. Sir Melchior recognises them as his daughters: "We'd finally wormed our way into the heart of the family we'd always

wanted to be part of. They'd asked us on to the stage and let us join in, legit."

The whole book is childlike and sophisticated at the same time. In its raunchy run-through of twentieth-century society and stage-history, it is overtly documentary. Nora and Dora's dancing and singing career spans music hall before the first world war, revue, and smash musicals. Real figures, in heavy disguise, sometimes seem to be discernible: Lord Olivier, Lady Diana Cooper, and others.

Dora, like her creator, is very well-read. This is lightly explained by her having had a famous writer for a lover, who educated her. Her creator makes Dora bawdy, but her impulse to flaunt all the bad words she knows — eg, for the procreative juices — has a smack of the child's or the intellectual's impulse to be rude. "Hard to swallow, huh?" It's all

very complex, inventive, and brilliant. Any criticism of this kind of exuberant virtuosity lays one open to the accusation of having no appetite for literary risk-taking, or just for life, or sense of humour. It's no fun at all being the party-pooper. Here goes. Dora says: "There are limits to the power of laughter, and though I may hint at them from time to time, I do not propose to step over them." But she does. The great comic set-pieces of pandemonium and ballyhoo go on rather too long, and numb the reader's response. The arch nudges and winks become tiresome. The hectic pace has a hectoring quality.

Dora has an answer even to this: "Well, you might have known what you were about to let yourself in for when you let Dora Chance in her ratty old fur and poster paint, reeking of liquor, accost you in the Coach and Horses and let her tell you a tale." Maybe Dora was making most of it up. Maybe loneliness in the decaying Brixton basement flat, with fantasy fuelled by too many afternoons watching videos of old Hollywood movies, is the alternative reality. In that case, and in any case — what a performance!

WISE CHILDREN

By Angela Carter

Chatto & Windus, £13.99

## Tails of two old poetic birds

Robert Nye

COLLECTED POEMS 1980-1990

By Gavin Ewart

Hutchinson, £11.99

ANTIDOTES

By C. H. Sisson

Corgi, £6.95



Gavin's rude old age

belongs to literature. Witty, clever, coarse, he needed the last couple of decades, with their ghostly blurring of those categories, to permit him his own late flowering as a poet.

And I'm not knocking Ewart. Light verse is an art, like any other, with few masters. He might not be exactly one of those, but what he writes is fun, and he has considerable command of a variety of metres and he is never pretentious. The bangers he lets off now are better than the "Phallus in Wonderland" stuff, and there are few who sound a less shrill note in the difficult business of laughing at yourself. Witness the last stanza of his "Lights Out", pertinent to our theme, a poem in which he admits that with each new book the old poet wonders if it will be his last:

Write it all down, write it fast and loose, it may be sad stuff — and you were never a golden egg goose — but show it out, coming too soon you've got silence enough!

I think it was John Berryman who once remarked that when Shakespeare said he had two loves of comfort and despair

he wasn't kidding. It is that element of not kidding, even when he is kidding, that I like in Gavin Ewart. He was certainly never a golden egg goose, but it behoves him to acknowledge it himself, and the randy gander's still alive and kicking.

Charles Sisson seems to have written verse in his adolescence, stopped at the age of 20, then started again in a troopship on the way to war. This second start came to little, and he did not really begin writing the poems by which he will be remembered until "about 1950, when I was already on the declining side of the cammin di nostra vita". One of those poems was the superb "In a Dark Wood", which ends with as moving a declaration of reluctant faith as any I know this side of Samuel Johnson:

Christians on earth may have their bodies mended By premonition of a heavenly state But I, by grosser flesh from Grace defended, Can never see, never communicate.

As these lines suggest, Sisson had become a Christian in becoming again a poet. In much of his work since there

has been a persistent attempt to return to source and rekindle Christianity to the pagan world, or rather to explore the relationship of the flesh of paganism and the religion of the Incarnation.

These are mighty matters, yet while ensuring his seriousness he does not of course guarantee Sisson's worth as a poet. That would need to be indicated by reference to such a poem as his "A Letter to John Donne", which seems to my mind and ear to have marks of greatness about it, an overflow of moral authority, that kind of more-than-verbal inevitability that distinguishes the major from the minor. If there is nothing quite of that stamp in his new collection, *Antidotes*, there is still plenty here that could have been written only by the man who declared himself "grateful particularly" that Donne was not a saint, but *extravagant whether in bed or in your shroud*. The voice, whether angry or wistful, is subdued to its occasions, in the manner of one at home in that company of English poets who have used the rhythms of common speech to say things not commonly said. Interesting, also, that many of these new poems are in rhymed quatrains, couplets, and other strict forms, including a sonnet sequence which observes the rules more conscientiously than anyone could have hoped in these lax days. If Sisson sometimes reminds me in his think-pieces of Forster's old woman who wrote in order to find out what it was she wanted to say, he also seems to be able to think in and through his chosen verse forms, and to have read everything relevant in at least three languages, and observed all his peers so thoroughly that he never falls into the misfortune of sounding like them. *Old age is truth*. He tells us twice, on each occasion asserting it's a lie. A truthful liar, then, a problem for Plato. May he continue to keep Charon waiting for a decent while yet.

## Helzapoppin for urban man

HELL, as Mother Bernard was fond of telling her young charges, is a huge department store where the lifts go down instead of up. If you were foolish enough to die in a state of mortal sin, the Demon would take you down to the first floor (gluttons, blasphemers, debauchees) or, heaven help you, to the very bottom floor, where adulterers and murderers mix in torment.

Preston Moody and William Quirk, two of Mother Bernie's old charges, are definitely alive — both in their mid-thirties. Preston a TV producer (the god slot), William an academic specialising in the plague — but already in torment. They have never got over Mother Bernie's simplistic pronouncement. Haunted by a sinister connection between sex and death, they share a black imagination that makes both your average Hieronymus Bosch look like a greetings card, and *The Adultery Department* a consistently funny read.

In this sequel to *Coming First*, his first novel, Paul Bryers once again homes in on the anxieties of the urban

Strange and Sublime Address, the novella and the nine stories that accompany it. Amit Chaudhuri describes the mundane rituals of a Calcutta household — mealtimes, bathing, shopping trips — and sees in them something sublime.

Through the eyes of Sandeep, the only child of a Bombay businessman, who is spending the school holidays with his uncle, we see the servants come and go, fighting the pervasive city dust, and making endless cups of tea. For Sandeep, big family occasions range from push-starting uncle's car every morning to observing his mother and aunt dozing off after lunch. He thinks the grown-ups are mad as they kiss the feet of elderly relatives, and put out food for the household gods.

The quality which radiates through this collection is hard to pin down. To some extent it must lie in the documentary detail of Bengali customs. Take, for instance, a taxi trip to the vegetable market at Gariahat: "The driver was a Sikh; he kept a picture of Guru Nanak by the steering wheel; while the driver looked at the

Antonia Bremner

THE ADULTERY DEPARTMENT

By Paul Bryers

Bloomsbury, £14.99

A STRANGE AND

SUBLIME ADDRESS

By Amit Chaudhuri

Heinemann, £13.99

SWEET DAYS OF

DISCIPLINE

By Fleur Jaeggy

Translated by Tim Parks

Heinemann, £12.99

road, the guru, with a sun-like halo round his head, looked at the driver. Beneath the dashboard, in a place that was painted black, were a few painted flowers, now a faded yellow, and in white letters, the name of the kind-hearted bank on whose loan the taxi had been bought."

Translating this into a black cab on its way to New Covent Garden and it is not the same thing. Mainly, though, the charm that has won Chaudhuri the 1991 Betty Trask Award is his romantic vision of the houses in Vivekananda Road, all with an infinitely interesting story of their own, their balconies and porches creaking with memories and possibilities.

*Sweet Days of Discipline* is an extraordinary tale of adolescent obsession set in a boarding school in the Appenzell of post-war Switzerland. Neighbourhood by mental clinics, the valley is an Arcadia of sickness. In the repression of institutional life, the schoolgirls — like plants deprived of light — form friendships of freakish development. From this atmosphere, and from the retrospective narrative, comes the novel's eerie fascination. Fleur Jaeggy's narrator becomes besotted with Frederique, a girl of exceptional beauty, talent and aloofness. On her father's death, Frederique leaves. Years later the two meet again and the circumstances are both unsurprising and unsettling.

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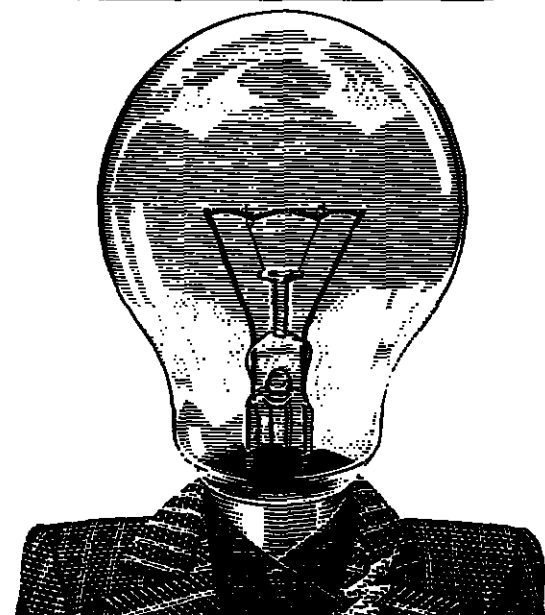
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## CINEMA: NEW RELEASES

# Slow-motion gore in hell's kitchen

Geoff Brown reviews

*State of Grace, La Gloire de mon Père, A Kiss Before Dying, and Circus Boys*

Gang warfare erupts on New York's streets in *State of Grace* (18, Cannon Court Road). Throats are slit, bullets fly straight into the temples, blood spurts out like red paint from a punctured can. Sean Penn looks nasty; Ed Harris looks worse; while Gary Oldman, sporting hair that has not felt a comb in years, carves a new niche as a frightening American psychopath. By the end of the tale, death will have claimed most of the cast, plus a pit bull terrier.

Yet *State of Grace* is no average slice of action hokum. The young, ambitious director Phil Joanou — his last film was the rock documentary *U2: Rattle and Hum* — does everything possible to achieve a grandiose effect. He overextends the film to 135 minutes, he digs up Sam Peckinpah's old bag of tricks, orchestrating violence in slow motion, and lets his characters — Irish racketeers modelled in part on New York's "Westies" gang — run off at a mouth in scenes paced to a slow, theatrical rhythm. (The screenwriter, the late Dennis McIntyre, was an off-Broadway playwright.) Finally, Joanou gets his cameraman, Jordan Cronen-weth, to suggest a city of endless darkness, enticing and dangerous: this he manages magnificently.

In fact, Joanou just neglects one minor point: the story. Audience interest is supposed to hinge on the dilemma of Sean Penn — a Hell's Kitchen lad who returns to the neighbourhood and a gangster's life with childhood chum Gary Oldman. Penn, we eventually learn, is an undercover cop; to do his job would mean selling out his friends and roots. But who

cares? Oldman certainly deserves no tears, and even Penn's tightly-sprung performance cannot bring a shallow, cloudy character to life. Without people to engage our interest, let alone sympathy, *State of Grace* steadily deflates, leaving nothing but words, bullets and a grand trail of art leading nowhere.

*La Gloire de mon Père* (U, Lumière), for all its faults, at least provides a strong antidote. Droll, loveable characters haunt every scene of Yves Robert's film, drawn from the first of Marcel Pagnol's autobiographical books about his childhood (see feature, below). There is none of Joanou's straining for cleverness. In Robert's eyes, happiness means two lovebirds dancing in the rain, or Mrs Pagnol's dazzling smile as she catches her precocious son Marcel reading a recipe out loud. Sadness means Marcel's pensive face, pressed against a window. Every effect is obvious — almost trite.

Pagnol himself nurtured plans to turn *La Gloire de mon Père* and the companion volume, *Le Chateau de ma Mère*, into cinema; but it took the success of Claude Berri's film of Pagnol's novel *Jean de Florette*, followed by *Manon des Sources*, to bring the transformation about. This new film, centred on a Pagnol family holiday in the hills, clearly stems from

the same pen. Provençal customs and landscapes dominate; the ways of city folk cause wry comment. There is even talk about "la source" — the all-important spring carrying water to the rockiest terrain.

Yet this is not *Jean de Florette*. No strong story pulls us into the film like a magnet: Robert's script is all snatches. No charismatic performances burn the characters into our memories, though Robert's troupe, led by stage actor Philippe Caubère as Marcel's father, is always decent.

Instead, the film banks on warming the audience's hearts, and over six million French people have succumbed already. Perhaps too many scenes wear charm on their sleeve. But in a week featuring New York's streets at their meanest, it would be churlish to deny the fleeting pleasures of this trip to a simpler age, when city parks thronged with nursemaids and parrots, and the hills were alive with the sound of cicadas. Yves Robert's film of Pagnol's second book, *Le Chateau de ma Mère*, opens at the end of July.

*A Kiss Before Dying* (18, Empire and elsewhere), financed by Hollywood but largely shot in Britain, is a film imprisoned under a bell jar. The central plot of a Pittsburgh nobody who becomes a somebody by murdering an heiress and marrying her twin sister calls for white knuckles and the willing suspension of disbelief. But writer-director James Dearden — he wrote *Fatal Attraction* — pursues such a glacial, mannered style that we are forced to gaze on events from a distance. Images freeze into fanciful compositions.



Patrolling the ever-dark city: Terry Noonan (Sean Penn) with members of the gang in Paul Joanou's blood and bullets thriller *State of Grace*

Scenes congeal into homages to Hitchcock — fine for the cognoscenti, but tough luck on the ordinary Joe trying to get involved in the story.

Inside the bell jar, actors struggle for breath. Matt Dillon is the callous hero, one Jonathan Corliss, wearing the cloak of an all-American college boy to claw his way into the Carrison Copper Company. Since Corliss is always playing a role, hiding his master plan behind peevish smiles, Dillon's earnest brand of acting proves no huge liability. This villain's blankness stems equally from the script, which only bares his most inner compulsions when

the dangerous game is nearly up. Sean Young takes on both Carrison sisters. One gets short shrift, thrown off a skyscraper. The other, brought to the altar by Corliss, is a social worker forced to appear stupid by the plot's stratagems. Trying to track down her sister's killer, she ignores the monster living under her nose. In a spunkier film, such holes could be disguised; there is no such luck with Dearden's icy tread.

*A Kiss Before Dying* is old-fashioned as well as cold. Ira Levin's novel dates from 1952; a first film version, with Robert Wagner, followed in 1956. We can admire the film's detail and the

technical achievement of recreating America in a British studio; but for the drama to live this bell jar needs to be smashed.

Finally to Japan for *Circus Boys* (ICA Cinema), which introduces a distinctive new Japanese talent, Kaizo Hayashi. His first feature, *To Sleep, So As To Dream* (showing at the ICA Cinema-theque from next Wednesday) delves deep into the language of silent film for a playful yarn about a detective trailing a kidnapped actress. His second — winner of the New Directors' prize at Edinburgh last year — is equally suffused with a love of the past.

We first meet the boys as sailor-

suited children growing up entranced within a circus. Time passes. One is conscripted into a gang of crooks. The other stays put with his dreams, though the circus shrinks to a handful of performers and an elephant with cataracts. Typical of Hayashi's playfulness, the elephant is an endearing rubber model. Hayashi's sense of magic and fun occasionally leads the film astray: over-acting descends with a wallop once the crooks enter, and some scenes court charges of preciousness. But it is rare to find a director able to keep a black-and-white film hovering so long, and so surely, between reality and dream.

## Plus ça change? Only in films . . .

The native view of Provençal life is not quite the idyll that is shown on screen, says Stephanie Billen



Perfect picture of a Provençal pair: Julien Clamarc with Philippe Caubère in *La Gloire de mon Père*

The sun-drenched paradises portrayed in Yves Robert's Provençal films are enough to have shivering British cinema-goers rushing off to the south of France in anticipation of hazy, shimmering landscapes, colourful locals and the simple pleasures of bread and wine. But *La Gloire de mon Père* (reviewed above) and *Le Chateau de ma Mère* represent the most sentimental view of Provençal life yet, a view about as accurate as the 1950s Britain of *The Darling Buds of May*.

"Sailors hear the call of the sea, I had felt the call of the hills," croons the husky-voiced narrator in *Le Chateau de ma Mère*, and the audience knows

exactly what to expect. But it is a chocolate-box vision which the locals find faintly embarrassing. "These films are more romance, less typical of Provence than *Jean de Florette* and *Manon des Sources*," says hotelier Pier-

ryck Gaillard behind his bar in St Didier.

"They do not see Provence with the same eyes as us," smiles his partner Danièle. Contrary to what we would all like to believe of this region, times have changed since the

rosy days Marcel Pagnol wrote about in his autobiography, upon which Robert's two latest films are based. There have been forest fires around Marseilles, there is unemployment among the young and the indigenous population is disappearing.

Says Gaillard: "I have lived here all my life. In the last 20 years the real Provençals have become very few. There are a lot of foreigners such as Portuguese and Spanish who have bought property here."

A degree of magic still remains, however. Gaillard defends the tourist image of Provence — "sun, lavender, crickets, the accent", as he puts it — becoming misty-eyed himself for a moment. "But it's too dry!" protests a younger member of his family. "Not at all," replies the real Provençal. "It's true there is sometimes no water for the agriculture and they had to switch off the fountains at Fontvieille. Les Fontaines, one month, but there is always enough water for the Pagnol, *le Pagnol*."

Ah, *le Pagnol*. In Britain it is this promise of the good life which has proved so appealing to readers of Peter Mayle's best-selling books about setting up home in Provence (*A Year in Provence*, *Toujours Provence*) and to viewers of *Jean de Florette* and *Manon des Sources*, the Claude Berri films based on Pagnol's popular novel. Now *La Gloire* and *Le Chateau* seem set to ride on the crest of that wave of interest.

According to Pagnol expert Eric Simon, film consultant at the French Institute: "We are looking at the next *Cyrano de Bergerac*. The British like this type of film because they think it is typical of French life. They think that people all over France are living like this with the berets, wine and so on."

In France the films have actually done better than *Cyrano de Bergerac*, with *La Gloire de mon Père* grossing FF81m compared with *Cyrano*'s FF78m, but Simon believes the reason for their popularity there is very different. "It's Pagnol. His stories were the equivalent of John Ford movies in America — patriotic, about the true people, going back to your roots. At the moment people in France need to be reassured about all that. They don't know where they are going, so they go back to Pagnol and it brings back memories of family life in the old days."

ARTS REVIEWS, PAGE 22  
Theatre, Dance and Concerts

## RECORDS: JAZZ

## Anaesthetised cuts

The Crusaders: *Healing the Wounds* (GRP Records GRD-9638)  
Laurindo Almeida: *Chamber Jazz* (Concord CGD-4084)  
Various Artists: *Ballads in Blue* (Blue Note CDP-7960882)

musicians. *Antiseptic* might have been a more suitable title. As well as playing bass, Marcus Miller turns in a characteristically slick performance as producer, enveloping the players in a glossy hi-tech cocoon. All his wiles, however, only accentuate the dullness of the compositions.

Compared with Miller's panoply of studio effects,

listening to Laurindo Almeida's *Chamber Jazz* is like stepping from a noisy wine bar to a leafy, secluded courtyard. An accomplished classical guitarist, Almeida was also one step ahead of the Sixties' bossa nova craze. In *Chamber Jazz*, a re-issue from 1979, he harnesses the traditions of improvisation, classical music and Brazilian folk song.

His transpositions of classi-

cal works are undeniably soft-centred. But there is ingenuity in the counterpoint of guitar and bass on "Bourée and Double", while the Brazilian themes convey a sense of grace and melancholy.

Part of a new set of compilations, *Ballads in Blue* contains some treasures: Dexter Gordon's account of "Guess I'll Hang My Tears Out to Dry", John Coltrane's "I'm Old Fashioned" and Ike Quebec's "Nature Boy". One welcome rarity is Pete La Roca's "Lazy Afternoon": listen and admire, and wonder how La Roca could have given it all up to become a lawyer.

CLIVE DAVIS

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The violence of giant volcanic eruptions has awed and humbled mankind since history began, says Peter Millar

## Staring into the mouth of hell

When Emperor Augustus set about organising Rome's first fire brigade, the citizens were so impressed that they dubbed him *Volcanus quietus* Augustus, making a direct link to the deity of devouring flame, to whom they prayed for deliverance. It was slightly tongue-in-cheek, but nonetheless a nod to the primeval power of fire and its most awesome manifestation, the volcano, named after the god Vulcan himself.

The eruptions shaking the Philippines today inspire the same atavistic dread of the uncontrollable power of nature that more pantheistic religions considered divine. Put bluntly, volcanoes have been putting the fear of God into man since time immemorial.

The ancient Romans used to sacrifice to Vulcan regularly on August 23 at an area of the forum specially devoted to him. There, small fish caught in the Tiber

by local fishermen and sold for the purpose were thrown into a fire under the supervision of a priest known as a *flamen* or *flame*. For those, however, who went on the next day to visit friends in Pompeii or Herculaneum in the summer of 79 AD, it was a sacrifice in vain. Above them, on the afternoon of August 24, Mt Vesuvius began to rumble and in a tremendous explosion, hurled fire, ash and flame into the air, sending tons of molten mud crashing down onto the towns and poisonous gases across the surrounding land.

We owe our oldest surviving vivid record of volcanic activity to a letter written to the historian Tacitus by the younger Pliny, who

had been staying with his uncle further up the coast. The elder Pliny, as well as being a famous scholar, was also at the time in charge of the Roman fleet. He set out to rescue people from Herculaneum by sea, but arrived too late and, spending the night at nearby Stabiae, was himself overcome by fumes and died.

The manner of his death guaranteed the elder Pliny an extra claim to immortality; since then, volcanic eruptions which follow the pattern of Vesuvius — literally blowing their tops after a series of quakes known as paroxysms — have been scientifically referred to as "Plinian".

The most notable volcanic event before the apparently re-

lated eruptions of Mt Pinatubo in the Philippines and Mt Unzen in Japan was that of Mt St Helen's in Washington State in the western United States in 1980. This managed to combine a spectacular Plinian explosion with the ferocious lava flows that the French call *nubes ardentes*, or burning clouds, associated with the type of eruption known as Pelean.

This name comes from another famous volcano, Mt Pelée on the French Caribbean island of Martinique which erupted in 1902 sending a huge cloud of dust, steam and gas hotter than the heart of a nuclear bomb into the air above the town of Saint-Pierre. Within seconds the town was a blackened tomb for 29,933 people.

Of only four survivors, one was a convicted murderer imprisoned safely in the town jail.

It is the sort of incident that inspires legends of divine deliverance, in the same way as chain reactions such as that linking Mt Pinatubo and Mt Unzen foment doom-mongering predictions of the end of the world. The good news is that this is nothing new. Pliny's contemporaries also predicted imminent apocalypse after Vesuvius.

Compared with some of the bigger blasts in the geological timeframe, recent eruptions have been relatively tame. We note them more because more of the world is densely inhabited. The loudest recorded bang was that

which sundered the island of Krakatoa in Indonesia in 1883. The explosion, which was reportedly heard 3,000 miles away, left a hole in the ocean floor more than 1,100 ft deep and six-and-a-half miles wide. Huge glowing boulders rained down on islands up to 50 miles away and 130 ft tidal waves swept over villages on the more populous islands of Java and Sumatra. More than 36,000 people drowned.

Those who live in the shadow of volcanoes tend to have a fatalistic approach to the monsters above them, often planting crops on the fertile volcanic soil. Our attitude towards them is somehow different to that towards other natural phenomena, such as hurricanes

and landslides. The volcano reveals the open mouth of hell, an odour of genuine sulphur and a glimpse of fire and brimstone. It brings home the truth that *terra firma*, the earth we live on, is little more than the fragile crust of a molten fireball. An erupting volcano is an intimation of our planet's mortality.

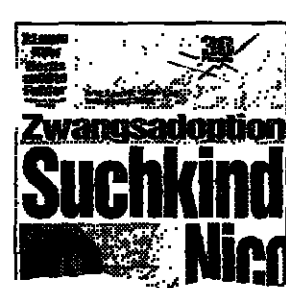
Vesuvius itself has continued to belch intermittently ever since it destroyed Pompeii, though only in 1631 did it again claim a substantial number of lives. Then 18,000 people died in an eruption that had been widely anticipated, but still caught them by surprise in its suddenness and ferocity. Nor has the link to the divine been lost even today, when an electric railway can carry the brave visitor to the volcanic crater: the wine produced from the vineyards planted on the mountain's fertile lower slopes is known as *Lacrimae Christi*, the tears of Christ.

Anne McElvoy

## So proles can be yobs again

This time last year, East Germany was still a socialist country. One could tell by the way the money rattled tinily in one's pocket and by the lack of vegetables, which, for reasons never adequately explained by Marx or Lenin, were incompatible with the planned economy. Capitalism arrived in the east on July 1, bringing the Deutschmark and the broccoli. It also trailed another new commodity in its wake: western yob culture.

This has proved pure delight for many east Germans bored by the old regime's constant eulogies of the workers and their "indispensable role as the vanguard of the revolutionary process". They have made no secret of their relief at being rid of this historical burden. What bliss to invest in several



New face of the east as tabloid succeeds agitprop

pairs of stone-washed jeans, blonde streaks and a subscription to a full-blooded tabloid: the return of the true working-class values rather than those dreamt up by the state's ideologists.

Cannily realising that the notorious west German *Bild* Zeitung was considered too reasonable by most *Ossis*, the new Murdoch-Burda co-operation *Super!* provides cover to cover scandal and strife. In the last week we have had the *Ossi* who began a hunger strike to highlight his personal post-unitary woes (he lost his job and his wife left him for a *Wessi*), and the cautionary tale of a show-off west German murdered in a small town by a vengeful assailant (headline, "All Bernau is pleased that he is dead").

East Germany's culture was largely prescriptive, reflecting in schoolmasterly fashion what people ought to consume, rather than responding to their preferences. People were force-fed the sophistication of Bertolt Brecht without any levelling of vulgar fun. The manager of the sole state variety show, which provided drag, innuendo and strippers with an official licence (the transvestites were approved by the ministry of culture) described to me the frenzied welcome his shows

used to receive in the provinces. "We were always sold out. They would climb over the caravans to get in without tickets. People were desperate for a good coarse laugh."

Many of the east's theatres which dutifully churned out the superior agitprop of Sean O'Casey, Brendan Behan and Dario Fo are now facing a simple choice between farce and extinction. At the renowned Volksbühne in east Berlin, they have taken a deep breath and opted for *When Did You Last See Your Trousers?*, while the Staatsoper keeps its Puccini afloat by slipping in the odd high ticket-price binge of *A Chorus Line*.

The "superior cultural level of development" that was proclaimed by the deposed leader Erich Honecker is now the victim of the march of millions of spectators' feet towards the new video euphoriums.

In supermarket foyers, whey-faced children cluster around whirling one-armed bandits while their parents stock up on microwave Indian meals and gallons of Coca-Cola.

The nastier side of free choice is the rampant skinhead movement. A walk — preferably a fast one — through the housing estates of Dresden or Leipzig almost makes one hanker for the days when male dissent was indicated by the length of the pony-tail rather than the application of swastikas to all visible patches of skin.

Poor old Walter Ulbricht, East Germany's first stentorian leader, must be spinning in his lavish grave in the cemetery reserved for state heroes. During his reign, he ordained the Tea Commandments of Socialist Morality, which included "Thou shalt strive for the betterment of thy performance, be thrifty and serve to strengthen socialist discipline". But in less than a year, the masses have thrown off the shackles of cultural oppression and regained the inalienable right of working people everywhere: the right not to be lectured on how to live by the well-meaning elite.

## Here's to a knave of diamonds

Even high-rolling Bernard Levin cannot suppress a twinge of envy for a glamorous life of crime, women and fast cars

I confess that when I saw a headline reading "The man who blew £8m on beautiful women" I was immediately convinced that it was about me. Only when I read on and discovered that the gentleman in question had got the money by theft, swindling and confidence-trickery did I relax; I will have you know that every penny of the millions I have blown in the circumstances described has been honestly earned, and never regretted.

I cannot help wondering whether the gentleman, Mr Robert Miller, now, unlike me, has regrets; after all, he was sent down for six years, and is thus paying for his fun. But does he wish he had never set eyes on a poppet who liked diamond necklaces? I know that I shall be called anti-social, accused of setting a bad example to the young, and perhaps even arrested as an accessory after the fact, but I rather hope he thinks that, like Tennyson, better fifty years of Europe than a cycle of Cathay. In short, shameful though it may be, I cannot entirely suspend admiration for him.

If you bridle, and if you were one of his victims you certainly will, just think of the sheer scale of his deceptions. No petty pilferer he; the roll-call of offences to which he pleaded guilty is itself pure poetry: 14 counts of deceiving investors, three of forgery, one of furnishing information and one of failure to keep proper accounts. There were 11 more charges, to which he pleaded not guilty — *ah, monsieur, quelle délicatesse!* — and to which the prosecution acceded.

But that is only the dry bones of the law; just listen to the juicy reality of what he got through and how he got through it. He stewed the better parts of London with houses for his wives and mistresses, thinking nothing of buying a £750,000 house and forking out another £340,000 on doing it up, presumably to the standards to which he was accustomed. He rained expensive cars on his ladies — a Mercedes here, a BMW there, now throw in a Range Rover, anon a Peugeot; nor was underwear entirely neglected — £4,000 of expensive frillies is a lot of expensive frillies. Holidays for two ranged from Geneva to the Virgin Islands (perhaps not, in the circumstances, the most appositely named venue for his travels), and within a period of two years he ran up credit-card bills amounting to £225,981 — how precise the law is! — and spent on his personal pleasures some £572,000.

You will surely expect the next bit, you cynics: he had no difficulty in getting a licence from the Department of Trade and Industry, nor membership of the Financial Intermediaries, Managers and Brokers Regulatory Association, which was presumably trying so hard to remember its name that it had no energy to spot a wrong'un. As for the banks, I dare say that they are dismayed at the realisation that it will be six years (four with good conduct) before they can again thrust seven-figure overdrafts at him.

Very well, it is not funny. The people he swindled have lost their money. But such realities can, I think, co-habit in the mind with others. Turn your back on the mirror and be honest: is there not even a tiny, guilty feeling that you, too, would like a spree of that

kind? You say no, with indignation. I accept the genuineness of the indignation, but then I ask you again, this time with a guarantee that you won't be found out. Do you waver? I bet some of you do.

I think that many of us — most, perhaps — have a corner in which we store fantasies of untold wealth, garnered no matter how. We too would like to hire Concorde to go down to the supermarket, we too would like to shower houses on our lady-friends, we too would like a credit-card with a limit of a quarter of a million. But more to the point, I believe that we too somehow thrill at a life of crime. Not, I take it, sordid crime, violent crime, mean crime, but splendid crime, glamorous crime, exciting crime, even amusing crime, the fruits of which would enable us not only to live

high on the hog, but to experience the thrill of the chase as the police are thrown off the scent, the car gets away, the fences are efficient, the money is safe in a Swiss bank account.

Glamorous, I said, and I think that is the clue. There is in our minds a picture of crime itself, with its thrills and dangers, which we find, however we shock ourselves in admitting it, enviable. The reality, of course, is rarely to be envied, if only because it so often ends up behind bars, but there is something about hugely successful confidence-tricksters that makes us read on with relish. If it were not so, why did the newspapers — not only the less expensive ones — splash the Robert Miller story so boldly and with something like delight; why, even the *Financial Times* not only

made a huge meal of the case itself, but added a background story on another page. True, Dundale Securities was a well-known name and business in City circles, but many a financial crime is born to blush unseen; what was so special about this one, unless it had in it something of what I have been saying?

There is another angle at which to come at the puzzle. Spending huge sums of money, even lawfully acquired, does undoubtedly offer a thrill. Heaven protect us from the Chelsea dinner-table amateur psychiatrist, but go and look up the word "spend" in a dictionary of slang, or indeed in a perfectly respectable one with a historical bent: for that matter, deny it as you may, there is a recognisably sexual excitement at the roulette-wheel (except for the croupiers), and the excitement in question is tied more to the thought of a huge loss than of a huge win.

Again, conjure up the traditional picture of the miser hoarding his gold. He is not hoarding it, is he? He is digging his hands into the golden coins in his miser's trunk, lifting them high and pouring them back. There is much exaggeration in the stories of priceless paintings or other objects of art being stolen for criminal collectors who cannot sell such well-known items, but it is not all legend; it is not necessary to be Dr No to have, or want to have, a stolen Leonardo to gaze at in private.

What drives the likes of a man like Robert Miller is another, and I suspect much more complicated, matter. He may have been just a shallow and childish man who was playing cops and robbers, and entertaining ladies with the fruits of the game, but I doubt it. The sums he stole were so gigantic, and the knowledge that he would be caught so conclusive, that there must have been something much deeper in his crimes; and, after all, for years he exhibited very considerable skill in fleecing his victims and keeping the coloured rings in the air, which suggests that he is a man of outstanding ability.

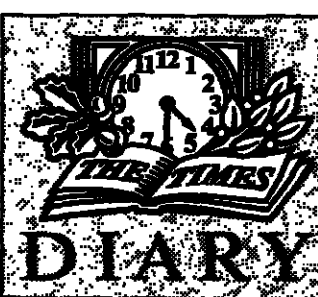
But to explore that avenue — what makes a man a criminal when he could succeed honestly — would take more space, and indeed understanding, that I have got today. Robert Miller did wrong, but if I am to be true to my thesis, I must wish him well in the years before him.

## He cannot tell a lie

A virtually unknown Downing Street aide has emerged as the key figure in the prime minister's attempts to define "Majorism" as a distinctive Conservative philosophy. Nicholas True, who joined the Downing Street policy unit a month after Major came to power, has been charged with moulding the prime minister's thoughts into a personal vision of the future in a speech at the end of this month to the Tory women's conference.

The speech will be based upon ideas thrashed out recently at Chichester, where True took copious notes. "While the prime minister told us that he found the summit very useful, Nick is the real authority. He has already started working on the principles of the speech, which will be one of the most important the prime minister will ever make," says one participant. True will work closely with Sarah Hogg, head of the policy unit, and Judith Chaplin, the political secretary.

A noted art historian in his early forties and an expert on the Italian renaissance, True was recruited from the Public Policy Unit, a non-party political consultancy. Previously a Tory councillor in Richmond, he first forged a close relationship with the prime minister at the department of social security, where he was special adviser to Norman Fowler and Major was a junior minister. Major is expected to offer a glimpse of his vision on Friday at the Tory party Welsh conference. But with Labour surging ahead in the opinion polls, the bulk of the speech will concentrate on more immediately pressing political problems. Clearly there is much still to play for: there is yet time for all good men — and True — to come to the aid of the party.



City executives, poor things, are having to eat their oysters and drink their champagne at their desks rather than in upmarket wine bars. A special service to take account of the austere times was launched this week by Bentleys, the seafood restaurant. It now delivers lobster, oysters and smoked salmon with a half-bottle of Veuve Clicquot to City desks, for the special recession price of £21.

## Murder preferred

And death shall have no dominion — at least not at Westminster. Julian Critchley's new novel, *Hung Parliament*, which concerns the murder of a woman Tory MP in a Commons lift appears to breach the historical convention that Parliament is a death-free zone. Bodies are deemed to be "poorly" when they leave, and not officially dead until they arrive at hospital.

"It is to do with this being a royal palace," says the House of Commons library. "It has to be the royal surgeon who issues the death warrant, and it is deemed easier to say that death occurred on arrival at the nearest hospital." Michael Dobbs came across this anomaly when writing *House of Cards*, which ends with a celebrated murder on the Commons roof. "When the last Labour government was bringing in MPs on stretchers for crucial votes, it was mischievously said that as you cannot die at

Westminster, the vote would count whether the body was alive or not," he says. "It is true that they will not allow you a decent death in the Commons. In 1961 my pair died midway through his speech, but the official record says that he did not," comments Critchley. But he



is convinced that his novel has not breached protocol. "My understanding is that although you cannot die from natural causes at Westminster, murder is allowed," he says, showing a most unfortunate turn of phrase.

## Oil money runs deep

Barclays Bank's sponsorship of the Constable exhibition which opens today at the Tate Gallery is only fair return. Not only did the painter have an account with one of the bank's early branches, he never had to borrow. Constable was a customer at the Whitehall branch of Cocks Biddulph, now part of Barclays, whose assistant archivist, Vicki Wilkinson, says that the records show that despite a constant struggle with his creditors, he stayed in credit thanks to regular cash injections from his family in Ipswich.

"We have no record of him ever going into the red," she says. "He was a highly esteemed customer." Leslie Farris of the Tate, who organised the exhibition, concurs. He was a "safe rather than an exciting customer," he says. Now his financial rectitude has been repaid — belatedly — with interest.

## Press gang prisoner

What a marvellous opportunity Douglas Hogg's trip to Lebanon should have been: the first visit by a British minister for six years and a chance to establish better relations with the Lebanese government now that relative peace prevails. All seemed to be going well until somebody inconveniently raised the question of Jackie Mann, Terry Waite and John McCarthy. The trip was not about the hostages, foreign office officials vainly implored journalists to understand.

Hogg was trapped. He was concerned to do all he could to help to secure the hostages' release, but there were no meetings with any of the fundamentalist groups which call the shots. The minister could ill afford to be seen to do nothing, but when he tried to do something he was accused of not doing enough. Which raises one question: which misguided soul in the FO dreamed that a British minister could visit Lebanon without hostages dominating the agenda?

Yesterday's elaborate wake in Porthmadog for the Welsh-born American oil executive John Evans was a classic example of America's confused vision of the old country. He must have thought Wales was Ireland. "Let the beer flow copiously and those Welsh voices quiver the rafters," Evans said in his funeral instructions. "Distinctly un-Welsh," said a spokesman for the National Museum of Wales. What happened to the influence of the chapel?

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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LESS HEAT MORE LIGHT

Party politics is devouring discussion of current affairs and confusing the public. Two issues, European monetary union and the National Health Service, are now being hotly debated. Only a tiny handful can understand what is in contention in either case. Both embrace professional and commercial lobbies with money at stake and with every reason to try to turn the argument their way. Public interest must be disentangled from private. This demands a drastic reduction in political static, and in the use of party politics as proxy for serious debate.

A good case in point was the recent treatment of dangerous dogs. A dispute between the government, dog owners and the RSPCA was turned into a synthetic row between the government and the Labour party, the latter driving the former into overhasty action. One reason was that "equal time" on broadcasting left party spokesmen crowding out comments from owners and experts. It mattered not at all that party leaders were broadly in agreement on dogs. Offered free publicity for supplying heated disagreement, politicians were happy to oblige.

The treatment of the NHS and EMU has been the same. In both cases, any government would have to act much as the Tories have, but the fog of party war must pretend otherwise. Broadcasting and the print media, heavily influenced by the Westminster nexus, demand instant conflict. A simple left-right dichotomy supplies it, setting up a false divergence. The multiple, often clashing, interests of doctors, patients, hospitals and unions are synthesised into a gladiatorial combat between William Waldegrave and Robin Cook.

Likewise over EMU, Europe's commercial interests, the Commission's struggle for power, the meaning of subsidiarity - even argument within British parties - are refined into a tripartite media "row". News of an economic statistic, a court case, even a natural disaster, are all seen as incomplete without a statement from a party opposing

the government of the day. The BBC offers time to Labour's John Prescott to comment after every transport accident, as if accidents were Tory policy. The doings of Labour councils are "answered" not by local residents but by Tory councillors. Radio and television shows are given over not to those with experience of the NHS or Europe but to party spokesmen bawling at each other.

Much of this is not new, though that makes it no more acceptable. But the greater skills of political managers, the decline in quality broadcasting and the trend to "conflict shows" has made it more prevalent. The approach of a general election gives added fierceness to the partisanship. Hence the absurdity of Labour exploiting Monday's comedy of errors and misunderstandings in Luxembourg: the ritual embarrassment of the party in power with no concern for the facts.

When John Major became prime minister he implied he would have less confrontation in politics. He would consult opponents on matters such as local government reform and downplay meaningless theatricals such as prime minister's question time. Labour's effective summer offensive forced him to change. He has sought a more aggressive image. His cabinet has "come out fighting" with defamatory campaigns, guillotined legislation and reactive government.

The false polarisation of public debate is thereby made even greater. Confusion over what is at stake over the NHS and EMU is widespread. Public administration is drowned in noise. Labour is saddled with commitments it may have to discard painfully in office. Meanwhile the opinion polls say the political parties are regarded as poorly equipped for the task of governing. The public would clearly like its intelligence more respected by those who take part in political debate. That debate should now be pluralised. And politicians should give up ritual abuse.

MONITORING RACE

The Commission for Racial Equality's latest report is confident that race relations in Britain are responding to treatment, though not quickly enough. To speed the ending of discrimination in employment, the commission is now proposing that all employers should have a legal duty to monitor the racial make-up of their work force. So far, the commission has not proved its case.

The commission is rightly concerned at evidence of continuing racial discrimination in employment. It already has legal powers to bring employers to court if they are guilty of deliberate discrimination, powers which it uses to good effect. Overt racism of the kind which prompted the first race relations legislation 25 years ago has manifestly declined.

That, however, leaves untouched the next layer of disadvantage, which is caused covertly or unintentionally. Compulsory ethnic monitoring is proposed as the solution. By being made to keep records of the race of all their employees, employers would come face to face with the results of their own unintended discriminatory practices, assuming they are able to interpret the figures. Furthermore the commission could call for such figures to be produced if it suspected the existence of such practices, as the first step towards having them declared unlawful.

Compulsory monitoring would embrace everybody and presumably every category of ethnic and religious diversity. Such an intrusive procedure is only justified if the need is overwhelmingly strong, and if other remedies are clearly insufficient. That is the argument used to justify religious monitoring in Northern Ireland, though it has not been in force long enough yet to prove it can be effective in countering the far greater discrimination in the province.

There is merit in employers knowing more about the racial composition of their staffs. But the commission leaves unclear

whether monitoring is supposed to lead to racial "targets", and how those would differ from racial quotas. American experience tends to show that quotas have an adverse impact on attitudes towards ethnic minorities in the long term.

The purpose of the CRE proposal is to demonstrate that certain racial groups are under-represented. This presupposes an objective method of deciding what "proper" representation would be - a racial and demographic minefield. The recent national census offered respondents a dozen varieties of ethnicity, and did not make the mistake of dividing Britain crudely into black and white. Ethnic monitoring in employment would have to be equally sensitive to the realities of multi-racialism, and take account of age, culture and educational background. A fifth of the population of a certain town may be Pakistani Muslims, for instance, but it would be absurd to insist that therefore one in five of the staff employed in pubs must be Pakistani. This is unpromising territory for new law.

Unintentional discrimination in employment can arise when employers recruit mainly through word of mouth, or when employees are encouraged to nominate their children for vacancies, or when there is an accidental bias against a minority group built into selection procedures. The Commission for Racial Equality already has a code of practice advising against such policies, and recommending informal self-monitoring on a voluntary basis.

This is good business practice, for every employer should want to fill vacancies with the best available recruits. The principle which should inform any policy of equal opportunities is advancement on merit irrespective of race. But the fact that persuasion has not proved an instant success is not sufficient reason to abandon it in favour of compulsion.

SWISS FAMILY BLUES

In *The Third Man*, Harry Lime mischievously identified Switzerland with the cuckoo clock, so providing the perfect alibi for foreigners envious of Helvetic prosperity. The Swiss are celebrating the 70th anniversary of the Everlasting League, formed by three cantons against their Habsburg overlords in 1291. Until recently, they have shown a sovereign indifference to the charges which are levelled at them by jealous but less successful competitors. William Tell, who inspired Schiller and Rossini, is one of the earliest symbols of national self-determination. Modern multicultural constitutions were long ago exemplified in the Swiss Confederation.

Switzerland was slow to espouse some benchmarks of modernity. It is only 20 years since women gained the vote in all but one canton, and full equal rights came only in 1981. But it was the Swiss who exported the revolutionary doctrines of Calvin, Zwingli, Pestalozzi, Rousseau, Barth, Le Corbusier and Jung. There is nothing old-fashioned about the ideas of Bachofen, the patrician of Basle who first taught that primitive societies had been matriarchal. Klee was not the dowdiest of modern painters; among writers Hess, Frisch and Dürrenmatt were avant garde heroes across the globe. From Nietzsche to Lenin, from James Joyce to Thomas Mann, the Swiss have an honourable tradition of welcoming foreigners who have trouble with their countrymen. Even Margaret Thatcher escaped to Switzerland. Switzerland's most cherished political tradition, its neutrality, is no longer a shibboleth. The Swiss are reconsidering

their splendid isolation from the European Community and the UN. Might the distinctive Swiss role in European civilisation be at an end? Certainly a gloomy introspection has recently swept Switzerland. This is not new: Jacob Burckhardt, the great Swiss historian, wrote in a similar vein a century ago. But there does seem to be a loss of confidence in a political system which has seen little change since 1847.

That ethnic melting pots such as the Soviet Union and South Africa are now examining cantonal structures should console the burghers of Bern. The Swiss constitution has long fascinated nation builders. It is ideally suited to that country's polycentric topography and polyglot population: minimal central government under stable centrist coalitions; direct democracy through referendums; an absence of military adventurism but respect for the profession of arms; rich industrialists and financiers ready to support Alpine farmers whose *raison d'être* is openly environmental.

Perhaps the Swiss constitution is inimitable. But those states now being torn apart by ethnic or religious divergence such as Yugoslavia or the Soviet Union should study a model that has been tested so thoroughly. Federal Germany took a leaf out of the Swiss book when it enshrined local democracy in 1949. Switzerland may suffer the doubts of success, but seven centuries of productive independence in the centre of Europe is no bad record. Nobody who knows Switzerland minds its shortcomings much. Why should the Swiss do so now?

Abortion and conscience

From Mr David Alton, MP for Liverpool, Mossley Hill (Liberal Democrat) and Dame Jill Knight, MP for Birmingham, Edgbaston (Conservative)

Sir, In 1967 a number of claims were made for the Abortion bill presented to Parliament. Nearly four million abortions later, and with destructive experiments on human embryos now sanctioned, and abortion of the handicapped permitted up to and even during birth, it is quite clear where those claims have led us.

In 1967 a "conscience clause" was incorporated into the legislation. What is that worth today? Doctors and nurses who refuse to carry out abortions are, according to a recent select committee report, victimised and prevented from securing jobs and promotion.

The deputy director of social services for Nottinghamshire County Council, Mr Andrew Croall, has been suspended and is currently being investigated with a view to disciplinary action because he expressed his pro-life views publicly.

Now, the Labour party national executive has struck off the Labour Life Group from the list of approved party groups, and its secretary, Mr Jim Kennedy, a Labour party member for 30 years, says that he fears that pro-lifers will be proscribed like Militant. When he wrote to Mr Kinnoch he says he did not even receive the courtesy of a reply.

In addition, the Labour front bench in Parliament have put forward proposals to create a published blacklist of any doctor or nurse pleading the conscience clause and refusing to participate in the abortion.

In 1967 the movers said their bill would not lead to abortion on demand. With one in five pregnancies ending in abortion that claim has been shown to be as bogus as the promise to protect the right of conscience. The right to life has been the first casualty and the right to free speech and personal belief have quickly followed.

Yours sincerely, DAVID ALTON, JILL KNIGHT, House of Commons, June 6.

Memories of fives

From Mr G. Davidson

Sir, One area of Africa in which Eton fives was widely played (leading article, May 28; letter, June 6) is northern Nigeria. The game was introduced by S. J. Hogben, an Old Chelmsfordian, in 1922 and was played enthusiastically by boys who later became the leaders of the northern region. The courts were originally built of mud, but one of the schools of which I was principal had two fine courts which were in constant use.

The Nigerian game was played with bare hands and a tennis ball; my efforts to introduce gloves and a hard ball were unsuccessful. In the early sixties a team from Eton College toured northern Nigeria; a year or so later a team from Nigeria played a series of matches against English schools, both styles of play being used. Honours were even at the end of the series.

One hopes that the game is still flourishing in Nigeria. Yours faithfully, G. DAVIDSON, The Common Room, Dulwich College, SE21.

From Mr S. Ramakrishnan

Sir, I, too, was a keen player of fives in my college days when I was a student of the Government Arts College, Kumbakonam, India, from 1930-4.

But it was not the birth place of the great wizard of mathematics, Srinivasa Ramanujan as mentioned (letter, June 6). He was born in Erode, another small town in the then Madras Presidency, although he spent a significant part of his life in Kumbakonam.

Yours faithfully, S. RAMAKRISHNAN, 23 Mount View, Northwood, Middlesex.

Pindown 'watchdog'

From Mr Bonar Sykes

Sir, As a former member of a prison board of visitors, I suggest that an analogous "watchdog" organisation might help to guard against the abuse of children, old people and the mentally ill who are in the care of residential institutions. Members of such an organisation, unpaid and independent, could be authorised to obtain access without notice to residential homes. They could not only act as a deterrent to bad practices but also encourage the many social workers who perform a difficult task with kindness, firmness and common sense. They could further act as a channel for legitimate complaints.

Elected members of local government committees must accept ultimate responsibility. But the existence of such an organisation, perhaps linked to some sort of ombudsman, should not dilute their responsibility. It should rather stimulate council members to question the advice and practices of their officers and reinforce their efforts to prevent the abuse of authority in enclosed institutions.

Yours faithfully, BONAR SYKES, Conock Manor, Devizes, Wiltshire, June 3.

Letters to the editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number - (071 782 5046).

Long wait for seat at Glyndebourne

From Mr Garry Pownall

Sir, For years there has been a waiting list for membership of the Glyndebourne Festival Society, virtually the only means by which those not connected with sponsoring companies can obtain tickets for Glyndebourne's particular pleasures. I registered in 1986, but by this year there were still 5,925 people ahead of me in the queue.

I did not know in 1986 that accessions from the waiting list to membership of the society were at a rate of between 40 and 100 annually and that unless death or discouragement took a great toll of those ahead of me, my best hope was of a seat (or to be more accurate, a place in a ballot for a seat) when I am 102.

In March this year the 11,500 people then shuffling along in the queue were told that unless they

paid a levy of £50 (described as a registration fee), which "will not in any circumstances be refunded", their names would be removed from the list. They were not provided with any measure of the likelihood of their becoming members.

Five thousand seven hundred people have paid up and Glyndebourne is better off by £285,000. That is surely a good thing, provided that the festival society is not tempted to repeat the demand regularly. But unless there is mass-murder among the existing members of the society (or all those queuing are still in nappies), it seems that, for many, the chances of getting there are as poor as ever and £50 will have bought them nothing.

Yours faithfully, G. H. POWNALL, 14 Belmont Road, SW4, June 10.

Testing for HIV

From Ms Brenda Almond

Sir, I was deeply concerned by the practical conclusions drawn by Dr John Marks (May 31) from the recent findings about HIV infection in pregnant women, and in particular from the disparity they reveal - one in 200 women found positive in some London areas, one in 16,000 in Yorkshire.

Dr Marks sees this as a reason for not introducing routine diagnostic testing - this is a situation in which a sample of blood is already routinely taken and tested for the presence of a number of other medical conditions including rubella, hepatitis and syphilis, so that, as things stand, HIV testing of this blood-sample must actually be explicitly excluded from laboratory investigation.

He bases his objection to testing on his view that HIV infection is not necessarily a ground for abortion. The fact is, however, that if an HIV-positive woman is kept in ignorance of her own condition, she is deprived of the opportunity of making her own assessment of the risks and advantages of proceeding with the pregnancy.

Of course, neither abortion nor HIV testing should be forced on a genuinely unconsenting woman, but unless the test is routinely offered at the earliest possible stage of pregnancy, the compulsion is being applied the other way - doctors are deciding for women that it is better to proceed in avoidable ignorance with a dangerous pregnancy.

Dr Marks argues that doctors should instead form their own subjective judgement of who is at risk and then offer testing, accompanied by compulsory counselling, in those cases where they suspect possible

exposure. In relation to this suggestion, it is worth pointing out that a New York study showed that this method, used in a clinic there, failed to identify almost half (42 per cent) of the women who were in fact HIV-positive. No scientific investigation is needed to suggest that it would also give offence and distress to many who were not.

Yours faithfully, BRENDA ALMOND, The University of Hull, Social Values Research Centre, Hull, HU6 7RX.

From Dr Stephen Jenkins

Sir, As the recent district general manager of a health authority with the highest rate of HIV positive tests in antenatal clinics it seems appropriate to respond to Dr John Marks of the BMA Foundation for Aids. To suggest that epidemiological evidence is of value to a doctor when treating the individual patient is surprising, as that is precisely what it does not do.

The routine testing of pregnant women is likely to reduce the birth of infected babies although some women, after counselling, may wish to continue their pregnancy. Proper diagnosis and subsequent care depend on having all the valuable information, whether it is the blood group, rubella status, etc.

Why do we continue to treat the HIV infection as though it is something entirely alien to other diseases? Proper care and counselling can start with accurate diagnosis which is what our patients require and expect.

Yours etc., STEPHEN JENKINS (Cardiologist), St Thomas' Hospital, SE1, June 3.

Architectural pastiche

From Professor Dennis Berry

Sir, Marcus Binney's article on the proposed development at Paternoster Square (June 4) and his appreciation of the fundamentals of modernism is thrown into doubt when he asks, "should we... have a style of our time..." juxtaposed with a plea for freedom of choice, as if we have any option in the matter.

We are not free to say what art, or architecture, will reflect our time. The zeitgeist, or spirit of the age, has always influenced its artistic expression and not the other way round. This was evidenced in Hitler's monumental architecture, in Stalin's social art and even in today's confused consumer pop-art which is so representative of our non-spiritual age of materialism.

It is inevitable in such an age of moral uncertainty that some would retreat into the safety of neo-classicism, or vernacular, both comfortable and familiar styles. The only advance, it could be claimed, is that of Hi-Tech, but this, too, is a development indicative of our confusion.

Reynier Banham in his book *Theory and Design in the First Machine Age*, wrote of the dilemma confronting architects over what we have hitherto understood as architecture and over what we are beginning to understand as technology as being incompatible disciplines.

He suggested that the architect who proposes to run with technology may have to discard his whole cultural load and if he decides otherwise, he may find that the technological culture will go on without him.

Regrettably, in this time of artistic pluralism and of an architecture of confusion, there is nothing in the rules which says our contemporary age can hide itself behind wallpapered facades from other more stable times.

Yours faithfully, DENNIS BERRY, 11 Fairacre, Acacia Grove, New Malden, Surrey, June 4.

From Dr Margaret Rose

Sir, Bernard Kaukas writes (June 8) in answer to Marcus Binney's "So what's wrong with pastiche?" that "pastiche = paste = fake jewellery, i.e., not the real thing".

However, etymologically speaking, and in much of the Post-Modern architecture which uses it, pastiche is not as described above but = "a pasty" = "a compilation of different elements", and the question is not whether pastiche in architecture = fake but whether it is good or not, and why.

Yours sincerely, M. ROSE, Clare Hall, Cambridge, June 10.

Pressing enquiry

From Mr Peter Corby

Sir, As the creator of the electric trouser-press, and the person responsible for instigating its use in hotel bedrooms in many parts of the world, I am perhaps best qualified to explain to your correspondent, Mr P. D. J. Wood (June 3) just how the "contraption" became so ubiquitous.

Sixty years ago a company founded by my father, John Corby, manufactured wooden trouser presses; but the market diminished and to keep the factory going we had to diversify. In about 1936 we invited George Harris, an enterprising aerospace engineer to develop a flexible heating element for an electrically-heated version of the original Corby press, and in 1961 a successful new British product was born. The experts said that trouser presses were a thing of the past, but they were confounded by the public.

In 1968 two hotel chains permitted us to instal electric presses in some of their bedrooms to assess reaction, and within a very few months we received more than a thousand letters from guests who thought it was a good idea. Mr Wood compliments me on my salesmanship, but with these letters in my brief case it was not difficult.

By 1973 life was altogether too exciting. The factory capacity was 2,000 presses a week, which in due course was not nearly enough. I am an amateur, and I realised that if the professionals knew what a good wicket I was on I would be lucky to survive for long. I therefore sold out to a public company, Thomas Jordan, and retired to Cowes to sail my boat.

Yours sincerely, PETER CORBY, The Sloop, 89 High Street, Cowes, Isle of Wight, June 5.

Let them eat sweets

From Dr Janice I. Harland

Sir, Mr D. W. Sarll (June 6) describes sugars in fruits, vegetables and milk as "tooth-friendly sugars" whilst labelling other sugars as "enemy sugar". This is a nonsense. Dental studies have shown that sugars in fruits such as raisins and bananas are highly cariogenic and even milk sugars can cause dental caries; this is why mothers are encouraged not to give their babies milk in baby feeders.

All sugars are cariogenic and newer research shows that cooked and processed starch do feed the mouth bacteria that produce acid attacks on teeth. We consume some kind of sugar or starch on most eating occasions so it is reducing the frequency of eating, especially of snacking and nibbling between meals, that is important.

Yours faithfully, JANICE HARLAND (Director), The Sugar Bureau, Duncan House, Dolphin Square, SW1, June 7.

One year ago in Bucharest

From the Pro-Rector of the University of Bucharest

Sir, Some of your readers may need reminding of the first anniversary of the dramatic events of June 14-15, 1990, when Romanian miners attacked the University of Bucharest and the Institute of Architecture.

At that time the students and academic staff were oppressed, libraries and laboratories were destroyed and the university precincts vandalised. One whole year later the government in power has made no proper investigation or attempt to establish the guilt and identity of the perpetrators.

Solidaritatea Universitara din Romania (University Solidarity of Romania), a non-political organisation which aims for the return of Romania to its place among the free democratic nations, asks the international scientific community and all those working in universities to express their sense of community with academic staff and students in Romania by making June 14 an International Day of Solidarity and by expressing their disgust at the Romanian government's inexcusable failure to act in this matter.

Yours sincerely, EMIL CONSTANTINESCU (Leader, Solidaritatea Universitara), Bul. N. Balcescu, 1, Bucharest, Romania, June 10.

Cheques at risk

From Mrs June Blane

Sir, Enclosed with my tax assessment form from the Inland Revenue was a separate one-page leaflet urging me to pay my tax by Giro, cash at the Post Office, or by direct credit methods because "cheques sent by post may be stolen before they reach us".

It seems grotesque that the Inland Revenue and the Post Office are incapable of ensuring the safe delivery of cheques sent through the post, but it must indicate that large-scale theft is taking place somewhere within, or between, civil service departments.

This is a serious matter about which we should be told more. Yours faithfully, JUNE BLANE, Mark Cross House, Ripe, Nr Lewes, East Sussex, June 6.

Banks and interest

From Mrs Humphrey Stone

Sir, We have received a cheque drawn on a Dutch bank in the sum of £500. Four weeks later we received notification from our bank that the interest and bank charges were £21. Half of this was interest charged at the rate of 7 per cent above base rate. In other words, our bank has no vested interest (no pun intended) in hurrying the negotiations with the Dutch bank. The interest is 5 per cent more than we would pay if we used our normal overdraft facilities.

This small business is considering sales promotion in Europe but the above offers little encouragement. Yours faithfully, HUMPHREY STONE, Compton Marbling, Lower Lawn Barns, Tisbury, Salisbury, Wiltshire, June 7.

Burmese democracy

From the Deputy Head of Mission, Embassy of Myanmar

Sir, We have read your leading article about Myanmar ("A country in prison", May 28) with profound dismay and disgust. To declare that Mrs Suu Kyi's National League for Democracy (NLD) party has been outlawed is untrue, as you acknowledged yourself by printing a correction to this effect in your issue of January 7, 1991. Your charges that there was "a most grotesque manipulation" of the May 1990 election campaign, that the NLD leadership was "forced to sign an agreement nullifying the election" and that the State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC) is involved in opium exports are also false.

SLORC has firmly declared that, once a strong constitution to establish a new democratic Myanmar has emerged, it will systematically undertake to transfer state power, in accordance with the provisions of the constitution. A time frame cannot be specified since this is dependent on the representative elect and the election commission. The *Tamada* (Armed Forces), which have no intention of holding power for longer than necessary, will implement their programmes decisively, regardless of the obstacles they may encounter on the way.

Yours sincerely, ZAW WYNN, Embassy of the Union of Myanmar, 19a Charles Street, W1.

Vantage, voyeur?

From Mrs H. D. Newman

Sir, Given that one of the tennis playing finalists in the French Open Poscur Tournament (letter, June 11) appeared more suitably dressed for an afternoon's windsurfing, one can hardly blame the cameraman for "straying" into the crowd in search of Parisian "chic". Looking forward to a whiter Wimbledon.

Yours faithfully, H. D. NEWMAN, 12 Hughenden Road, Clifton, Bristol, Avon, June 11.







ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PERSONAL 21

I will keep you safe, and you will not be put to death. You will escape with your life because you have put your trust in me. 1:10 Lord, have mercy on me. 1:18 GNB

BIRTHS

**ATHANASIOU** - On May 30th, to Susan (nee Williams) and Ioannis, a son, Nicholas Alexander Ioannis. The father is a member of the Greek Orthodox Church. The mother is a member of the Greek Orthodox Church. The child was born at the St. Mary's Hospital, Oxford, to Ann and Steven, a son, Michael. The father is a member of the Greek Orthodox Church. The mother is a member of the Greek Orthodox Church. The child was born at the St. Mary's Hospital, Oxford, to Ann and Steven, a son, Michael.

DEATHS

**ASHWORTH** - On May 4th, after a short illness, Dr. David Ashworth, 68, of 10, St. Mary's Road, London, died. He was a member of the Greek Orthodox Church. The father is a member of the Greek Orthodox Church. The mother is a member of the Greek Orthodox Church. The child was born at the St. Mary's Hospital, Oxford, to Ann and Steven, a son, Michael.

DEATHS

**BOURNE** - On May 10th, 1991, at St. Mary's Hospital, London, after a short illness, Dr. David Bourne, 68, of 10, St. Mary's Road, London, died. He was a member of the Greek Orthodox Church. The father is a member of the Greek Orthodox Church. The mother is a member of the Greek Orthodox Church. The child was born at the St. Mary's Hospital, Oxford, to Ann and Steven, a son, Michael.

DEATHS

**COOPER** - On June 11th, 1991, at St. Mary's Hospital, London, after a short illness, Dr. David Cooper, 68, of 10, St. Mary's Road, London, died. He was a member of the Greek Orthodox Church. The father is a member of the Greek Orthodox Church. The mother is a member of the Greek Orthodox Church. The child was born at the St. Mary's Hospital, Oxford, to Ann and Steven, a son, Michael.

DEATHS

**DALE** - On June 11th, 1991, at St. Mary's Hospital, London, after a short illness, Dr. David Dale, 68, of 10, St. Mary's Road, London, died. He was a member of the Greek Orthodox Church. The father is a member of the Greek Orthodox Church. The mother is a member of the Greek Orthodox Church. The child was born at the St. Mary's Hospital, Oxford, to Ann and Steven, a son, Michael.

DEATHS

**DAWSON** - On June 11th, 1991, at St. Mary's Hospital, London, after a short illness, Dr. David Dawson, 68, of 10, St. Mary's Road, London, died. He was a member of the Greek Orthodox Church. The father is a member of the Greek Orthodox Church. The mother is a member of the Greek Orthodox Church. The child was born at the St. Mary's Hospital, Oxford, to Ann and Steven, a son, Michael.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**THE ROCKY FAMILIAR FIVE** - On June 11th, 1991, at St. Mary's Hospital, London, after a short illness, Dr. David Rocky Familiar Five, 68, of 10, St. Mary's Road, London, died. He was a member of the Greek Orthodox Church. The father is a member of the Greek Orthodox Church. The mother is a member of the Greek Orthodox Church. The child was born at the St. Mary's Hospital, Oxford, to Ann and Steven, a son, Michael.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**PRICE** - On June 12th, 1991, at St. Mary's Hospital, London, after a short illness, Dr. David Price, 68, of 10, St. Mary's Road, London, died. He was a member of the Greek Orthodox Church. The father is a member of the Greek Orthodox Church. The mother is a member of the Greek Orthodox Church. The child was born at the St. Mary's Hospital, Oxford, to Ann and Steven, a son, Michael.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**SHIELDS** - On June 12th, 1991, at St. Mary's Hospital, London, after a short illness, Dr. David Shields, 68, of 10, St. Mary's Road, London, died. He was a member of the Greek Orthodox Church. The father is a member of the Greek Orthodox Church. The mother is a member of the Greek Orthodox Church. The child was born at the St. Mary's Hospital, Oxford, to Ann and Steven, a son, Michael.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**VOYSE** - On June 12th, 1991, at St. Mary's Hospital, London, after a short illness, Dr. David Voyse, 68, of 10, St. Mary's Road, London, died. He was a member of the Greek Orthodox Church. The father is a member of the Greek Orthodox Church. The mother is a member of the Greek Orthodox Church. The child was born at the St. Mary's Hospital, Oxford, to Ann and Steven, a son, Michael.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**WIMBLEDON 91** - On June 12th, 1991, at St. Mary's Hospital, London, after a short illness, Dr. David Wimbledon 91, 68, of 10, St. Mary's Road, London, died. He was a member of the Greek Orthodox Church. The father is a member of the Greek Orthodox Church. The mother is a member of the Greek Orthodox Church. The child was born at the St. Mary's Hospital, Oxford, to Ann and Steven, a son, Michael.

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5 Sudden thrust (5)

6 Marquee (4)

7 Suez (4)

8 NW German (5)

9 Japanese warrior (7)

10 Good wine year (7)

11 Winding race stretch (7)

12 Abandon (6)

DOWN

1 Cosmetic surgery (4,4)

2 Be content (6)

3 Graciful (7)

4 Bluegum (4)

5 Water down (6)

6 Unfeeling (11)

7 Cover (3)

8 Nave wing (8)

9 Crux (7)

10 Consign (6)

11 Breathe out (6)

12 Dry (wine) (3)

13 Street (4)

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**ELLEN TERRY CELEBRATION**

If we stand English only rarely devote into the carnivals, we make up for the infrequency of the frequency of the thoroughness with which we pursue it. Some thousands of Londoners yesterday devoted what was virtually the whole of a working day to a theatrical debut.

From shortly after noon to six o'clock they filled Drury Lane with a riot of enthusiasm, a torrent of emotion, a hurly-burly of hysteria, and sang "Auld Lang Syne" in chorus, not without tears.

Many of them had shown a certain method in their madness by taking up their station at the doors on the previous day. To sit up, or rather to stand up, all night in patient quest of an ideal is such a feat of heroism. Those who achieved it must have felt, once inside the theatre, that they were amply rewarded. It was an extraordinary spectacle.

For in our experience we have seen nothing quite like the Ellen Terry jubilee celebration at Drury Lane, nothing so crowded with hearty and demonstrative citizens, nothing so "rich and varied", nothing so lengthy, and nothing so strident. And yet we have not mentioned the real difficulty, the real "virtue" of the occasion. We find that in what Carlyle would have called the "veracity" of the whole affair, the intense, overwhelming, sincerity and

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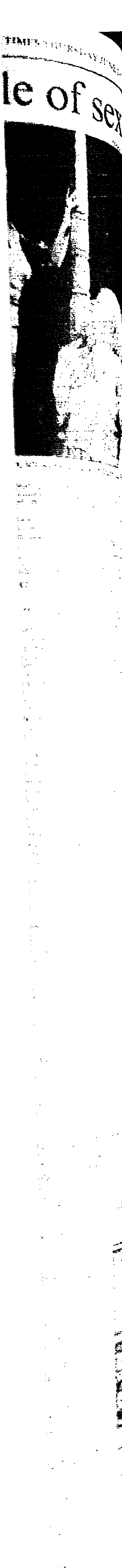
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- BBC 1**
- 6.00 Cee-fax: 6.30 BBC Breakfast News  
9.05 Rosemary Conley's Diet and Fitness Club (r) 9.30 Travel Show  
Guides: Holiday advice on Malta and Gozo (r)  
10.00 News, regional news and weather 10.05 Playdays 10.25 Bunyip  
Cartoon 10.35 Humdingers. Musical guessing game  
11.00 News, regional news and weather 11.05 High Chaparral. Vintage  
western series (r) 11.55 Reviving Antiques. Restoring crinoline and  
glass (r)  
12.05 Scene Again. Highlights from Scene Today with Judi Squire 12.25  
Hooked on Scotland. Paul Young discovers which fish rise to a  
bait of chocolate and coconut (r) 12.55 Regional news and  
weather  
1.00 One O'Clock News and weather  
1.30 Neighbours. (Ceefax) 1.50 Humdingers. Musical guessing game  
2.15 Film. Judge Horton and the Scottsboro Boys (1976). Stirling  
television movie about a controversial 1936 Alabama trial in which  
nine young black men were wrongly accused of raping two  
white females. Stars Arthur Hill, Vera Miles and Lewis J. Stadlin.  
Directed by Fielder Cook  
3.50 Ping (r) 3.55 Mick and Mac (r) 4.05 Happy Families: Mr Biff and  
the Boxer (r) 4.20 The Further Adventures of SuperTed (r) 4.35  
Bluebirds. Episode two of the six-part children's drama (r)  
5.00 Newsround 5.05 Blue Peter. Children's magazine (Ceefax)  
5.35 Neighbours (r). (Ceefax). Northern Ireland: Sportswide 5.40 Inside  
Ulster  
6.00 Six O'Clock News with Anna Ford and Andrew Harvey. Weather  
6.30 Regional news magazines. Northern Ireland: Neighbours  
7.00 Top of the Pops introduced by Anthea Turner (simultaneous  
broadcast on Radio 1)  
7.30 EastEnders. (Ceefax)



In his botanical element: the astute David Bellamy (8.00pm)

- 8.00 Bellamy Rides Again: The Carbon Cycle.  
© CHOICE: David Bellamy is the botanical version of Keith Floyd, and as happens with the man, the performance tends to  
overwhelm the subject. Head rolling, eyes popping, arms waving,  
knees bending, and generally leaving out, Bellamy is ostensibly  
here to talk about the elements, starting tonight with carbon. The  
treatment is as restless as the presenter, who seems determined  
to make the best use of a generous budget and treat us as many  
different locations as can be crammed into half an hour. One  
minute he is slushing through a rain forest, the next he is high up  
in the Alps and a moment later his craggy countenance bursts forth  
from a tropical sea. The content, by contrast, is almost  
straightforward, predictably laced with cheerily gloom-laden  
predictions about the environment. The effect is rather like a  
school broadcast delivered by a very eccentric uncle. (Ceefax)  
8.30 On the Up. Week sitcom from the experienced Bob Larbey  
starring Dennis Waterman as a self-made millionaire, here  
choosing the right time to tell his mother (Doris Bryan) about the  
break-up of his marriage (r). (Ceefax). Northern Ireland: 8.30  
Spotlight  
9.00 Nine O'Clock News with Philip Hayton. (Ceefax) Regional news  
and weather  
9.30 Crimewatch UK. The seventh anniversary of the real-life crime  
series. Nick Ross and Sue Cook want help in finding 21-year-old Jo  
Ramsden, who has Down's syndrome and went missing on April 9  
in her home town of Bridport; and more information on the shooting  
of antique dealer Peter Rastall outside his north London home.  
(Ceefax). Northern Ireland: Greenfingers  
10.15 Question Time presented by Peter Sissons. The guests are the  
editor of the Sunday Times, Andrew Marr, John Edwards, a  
secretary of the GMBGU, and MPs Virginia Bottomley and Joan  
Ruddock  
11.15 Crimewatch UK Update  
11.25 Heartbeat. Medical drama series set in a Los Angeles women's  
clinic. Northern Ireland: Greenfingers 11.50-12.10 Guests Of God  
12.15am Guests Of God: The Road To Malak. New series examining  
the rise of Islam in Europe through the experiences of a German  
Muslim family. About Heidi Wentzel and his wife who were Muslim  
converts before they met and married. Now raising a young family  
in Düsseldorf, they describe their lives in a traditionally Christian  
community 12.35 Weather

- BBC 2**
- 6.45 Open University. Science - of Garm and Geres. Ends at 7.10  
8.00 News 8.15 Westminster  
9.00 Daytime on Two  
2.00 News and weather followed by You and Me (r)  
2.15 Tennis. Live coverage of the Stella Artois championship from  
London's Queen's Club, introduced by Barry Davies  
3.00 News and weather followed by Westminster Live 3.50 News,  
regional news and weather  
4.00 Tennis. Further coverage from Queen's Club  
5.10 Film 5.15 With Barry Norman. Includes review of A Kiss Before  
Dying and State of Grace. Plus a location report from Yugoslavia  
on The Pope Must Die, starring Robbie Coltrane (r)  
5.40 US Open Golf Championship. A review of last year's US Open  
won by American veteran Hale Irwin. Introduced by Steve Rider  
6.30 Beating Retreat. Live coverage of the Hoi Sa Guards Parade  
attended by the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh with music by  
the Massed Bands of the Royal Marines. Eric Robson describes  
the scene  
7.30 Business Matters: Under the Knife. A go up from the Royal Free  
Hospital in Hampstead, one of the great, new, NHS trusts,  
plus reporter David Lomax, visits the Beth Israel Hospital in Boston,  
Massachusetts, to look at its system of "participative"  
management  
8.00 A Shabby Dog Story. A look at the RSPCA's national dog  
registration scheme which the government so far refuses to  
implement on the grounds of unnecessary bureaucracy and high  
cost. The society's Gavin Grant argues that such a scheme would  
substantially reduce the tens of thousands of stray and  
abandoned animals that are forced to destroy every year (r)  
8.30 On the Line. Sue Mott and Ray Stubbs investigate racial  
discrimination in American sport and discover that black  
Americans wishing to play golf have the odds stacked against  
them. Last year's US PGA Championship was hosted by Shoal  
Creek Golf Club in Birmingham, Alabama but controversy erupted  
when it was discovered that they operated a whites-only  
membership policy. To elect a new president, the club  
pulling out, the club elected a single, honorary black member and  
the event went ahead. This year the PGA will be held at a club  
which has only one black player out of a membership of 255 and a  
similar situation exists at the Minneapolis club which will host the  
US Open this month. The programme asks whether the clubs,  
governing bodies and civil rights organisations will allow the sport  
to remain that way  
9.00 Up Pompeii. Saucy comedy from the Seventies with Frankie  
Howard as canny slave Lucio (r)



Paying a high price for the cost of divorce: Richard Tur (9.35pm)

- 9.35 Divorce: Say It with Lawyers.  
© CHOICE: Tonight's proposition is that the pain and the cost of  
divorce is increased, rather than diminished, by the British legal  
system. It is examined by Richard Tur, who speaks from bitter  
first-hand experience. The break-up of his own marriage was followed  
by years of legal warfare over money and the custody of the  
children. He describes the experience as "a huge shock to the  
system". His job, ironically, is teaching law at Oriel College,  
Oxford. He presents the experiences of other people who have  
been torn apart, financially as well as emotionally, by the legal  
process. Tur asks whether divorce can be taken away from the  
lawyers and more emphasis placed on mediation and conciliation.  
He proposes informal family hearings on the lines of the lay  
children's panel which operates in Scotland. He takes his  
argument to the very top and finds Lord Mackay, the Lord  
Chancellor, not unsympathetic. (Ceefax)  
10.15 Fishing The Hard Way. Rock climber Joe Brown goes to find fish  
in a pool at the foot of a 380 foot waterfall - the second highest in  
Britain (r). (Ceefax)  
10.30 Newsnight presented by Francine Stock  
11.15 The Late Show. Arts and media magazine 11.55 Weather  
12.00 Weekend Outlook. A preview of Open University programmes  
12.05am Open University: Innovation on the Rails - A look at the  
Advanced Passenger Train. Ends at 12.35

- ITV**
- 6.00 TV-am  
9.25 Cross Wits. Tom O'Connor hosts the crossword game show 9.55  
Thames News and weather  
10.00 Out of This World. American comedy series  
10.30 This Morning. Family magazine  
12.10 The Riddlers. Children's puppet series  
12.30 News with John Suchet. Weather 1.10 Thames News and  
weather  
1.20 Home and Away 1.50 A Country Practice  
2.20 Survive Catching Up With... Robert Funnell. Eleven years after  
their first conversation the former Archbishop of Canterbury talks  
about the demands of the most responsible job in the Church of  
England 2.50 Win, Lose or Draw. Denny Baker hosts the pen and  
paper charades game  
3.15 ITN News headlines 3.20 Thames News headlines 3.25 The  
Young Doctors. Australian medical drama  
3.55 Scooby Doo - Where Are You? Cartoon 4.15 Disney's Duck  
Tales. Cartoon 4.40 Streetwise. Final episode of the children's drama  
series  
5.10 Thames Action. Hard hitting series made by and for Londoners.  
Introduced by Jacqui King  
5.40 News with Fiona Armstrong. (Oracle) Weather  
5.55 Thames Help. Jackie Sprackley with more advice on entertaining  
the under-fives  
6.00 Home and Away (r). (Oracle)  
6.30 Thames News and weather



Mobbed by a gang of Harley's Angels: Alan Turner (7.00pm)

- 7.00 Emmerdale. Alan Turner (Richard Thorpe) is upset by the village  
6.50's gals. (Oracle)  
7.30 Survive. The life of the hedgehog is revealed by Sir Peter  
Scott (r). (Oracle)  
8.00 The Bill. Hijack. Fast-paced police action with the Sun Hill  
constabulary. Detective Inspector Burnside (Christopher Ellison)  
investigates a case where the driver of a hijacked lorry was not  
involved in the robbery. (Oracle)  
8.30 This Week: The Forgotten Hostage. In the week that Foreign  
Office minister Douglas Hogg visited Beirut for talks on the release  
of western hostages, a profile of former British pilot Jackie  
Mann, kidnapped more than two years ago and believed held by  
the Hezbollah. The programme includes an interview with Mann's  
wife, Sunny. (Oracle)  
9.00 LA Law. Medical matters feature strongly in tonight's episode with  
Murray (Vincent Gardenia) suffering from more symptoms of  
Alzheimer's disease and Brackman (Alan Richins) and Rollins (Blair  
Underwood) representing a man who has developed Tourette's  
syndrome. Furthermore Victor Sinitas (Jimmy Smits) takes on  
the case of a doctor fired for suffering from neurofibromatosis -  
"Elephant Man" disease. (Oracle)  
10.00 News at Ten with Trevor McDonald and Julia Somerville. (Oracle)  
Weather 10.30 Thames News and weather  
10.40 The City Programme includes a report on the role of venture  
capital during the recession  
11.01 Includes a review of the film A Kiss Before Dying and an  
interview with the director, James Frawley  
11.40 Prisoner: Cell Block H. Australian drama series set behind the  
bars of a women's detention centre  
12.30am Contacts. Trevor Ward and Susy Smith introduce the series  
that attempts to be the television equivalent of the personal  
columns  
1.00 In the Heat of the Night: Fairest of Them All. American crime  
series starring Gene Hackman. The Sparta police try to find out why  
a young beauty contestant committed suicide in a case involving  
drugs and extortion  
2.00 Film: Dead Run (1989). Peter Lawford stars in this routine spy  
thriller as a well-dressed secret agent on the trail of an international  
crime organisation which has stolen US defence plans to sell to the  
enemy. There are good locations in Berlin and Rome and Ian  
Furberberg provides the glamour. Directed by Christian-Jaque  
4.00 The Late Show. Arts and media magazine 4.15 Weather  
4.30 America's Top Ten (r)  
5.00 Videofashion. The work of the fashion designers (r)  
5.30 ITN Morning News with Brenda Rowe. Ends at 6.00

- CHANNEL 4**
- 6.00 The Channel Four Daily 9.25 Schools  
12.00 The Parliament Programme presented by Sue Cameron  
12.30 Business Daily with Susannah Simons  
1.00 Seaside Stretch (r)  
2.00 On the March: America Thinks It Over. The tawdry through the  
March Of Time archives today looks at the campaign to get  
America more involved in the international arena (r)  
2.30 Film: Thieves' Highway (1948). A crisp and pacy thriller  
starring Richard Conte as an ex-GI whose father is crippled by  
mobster Lee J. Cobb. Conte determines to bring Cobb to justice  
and joins his illicit trucking operation. Italian actress Valentina  
Cortese makes her Hollywood debut as Cobb's erstwhile  
girlfriend, helping Conte to bring him down. With Barbara  
Lawrence and Millard Mitchell. Directed by Jules Dassin, who soon  
afterwards was branded as a communist by the Un-American  
Activities Committee and forced to work in Europe.  
4.15 Peta Smith Specialities: It's a Dog's Life (b/w). Today's MGM  
short explores a man's relationship with his best friend  
4.30 Fifteen-to-One. Fast-paced elimination quiz  
5.00 Famous for 4 Minutes. Ordinary members of the public talk about  
their lives, values, hopes and fears  
5.05 The Oprah Winfrey Show: Celebrity Look-Alikes. The American  
discussion programme features appearances by individuals who  
think they look like Madonna, Cher, Whoopi Goldberg, Kim  
Basinger and even Oprah herself. There are also tips on how to  
transform yourself into a sex-symbol  
6.00 The Time Tunnel: Reign of Terror. Classic Sixties sci-fi series  
about two time-trapped scientists who have an uncanny knack of  
popping up at the most turbulent and dangerous moments in  
world history  
7.00 Channel 4 News with Jon Snow and Zainab Badawi. (Teletext)  
Weather  
7.50 Comment



A guide to the blooms and gloom: Anna Pavord (8.00pm)

- 8.00 Flowering Passions: The Flower and the Glory.  
© CHOICE: Television gardening programmes tend to inhabit a  
fantasy world where the soil runs through the fingers and there is  
not a weed or pest in sight. This new series, presented by the  
writer Anna Pavord, breaks new soil, as it were, by showing us that  
even the experts are not immune from the hazards of the plant  
world. The victim is a Midlands chrysanthemum grower, Roger  
Brathwaite. Preparing his giant blooms for the annual Chesham  
Show, he is devastated to find that the entire crop has been  
ravaged by blackfly. But there's better luck for Harold Large, a  
daffodil expert of 60 years' experience who observes,  
philosophically, that a pest is a pest is a pest, but just in  
case the birds are not always hungry he goes out at midnight with  
a torch and deals with the swarms himself. (Teletext)  
8.30 Rising Damp. Brilliant Seventies sitcom starring the late Leonard  
Rossiter as the owner of a seedy boarding house (r). (Teletext)  
9.00 G.B.H.: Only Here on a Message.  
© CHOICE: The second instalment of Alan Bleasdale's riveting  
increasingly complex the nation saga gets darker and deeper as it explores  
further the conflict between Robert Lindsay's political gambler  
and Michael Palin's nice, neurotic head teacher. As might have  
been expected from this writer, it is not a simple matter of a bad  
guy and a good one. Sympathy starts to flow for Lindsay as  
political adversaries and the press rake up his past, while the Palin  
character (wonderfully acted, by the way) is presented with  
increasing complexity. The portly, portly in a northern city in the grip of  
hard left, he is still a disturbing one, although the Labour  
moderates hardly come across as sturdy horses. Julia Walters  
is more in evidence this week as the politician's white-haired Irish  
mother and there is an enigmatic debut from Lindsay Duncan, who  
is destined to take a more central role in future episodes. (Teletext)  
10.35 Harry Connick Jr. A film of the singer's 1980 London debut where  
he was backed by a 30-piece orchestra and performed many  
classic songs by George Gershwin, Cole Porter and Duke Ellington  
11.35 A Week in Politics - Late Sitting. Includes items on the changing  
role of the state in our public life and on recession and  
unemployment. Ends at 1.05am

## TV VARIATIONS

- ANGLIA**  
As London except: 5.10-5.40 Blockbusters  
5.55-7.00 Anglia News 10.40 Go Rising  
11.15 WideWorld 11.45 Premier: Cell Block  
11.40am Donahue 1.35 Film: Christine  
1.20 News 1.45 News 1.55 News 1.55  
5.05-5.30 Yan Conk
- BORDER**  
As London except: 5.10-5.40 Home and  
Away 6.00 Lookaround Thursday 6.30-7.00  
Blockbusters 10.40 Prisoner Cell Block H  
11.15 Merrie. With Children 12.05 Film:  
The Next Men 2.05 News 2.15 News 2.15  
Low West 11 For You 3.05 Night Best 3.35  
champion 5.10-5.30 Jobfinder
- CENTRAL**  
As London except: 5.10-5.40 Blockbusters  
5.55-7.00 Central News 10.40 Central  
city 11.10 1st Night 11.40 City Dancing  
2.10am Kiosk 1.05 Video View 1.20  
mercia's Top Ten 2.50 News 2.55 News 2.55  
Power 3.40 Weekend 3.40 News 3.40  
11.00-11.30 Central Jobfinder '91
- IRANADA**  
As London except: 5.10-5.40 Blockbusters  
5.55-7.00 Granada Tonight 10.40 Celebra-  
tion 11.10 Families 12.05am Film: The Next  
Men 2.05 News 2.15 News 2.15 News 2.15  
v 11.07 3.05 Night Best 3.35 Schimanski

- RADIO 3**
- 35-6.55am Open University (FM  
only)  
5.55 Weather: News Headlines  
6.00 Morning Concert: Schubert, at  
Shen (10 With Ensemble).  
7.55: 5.55 Weather: Arnold (Concerto for two  
pianos, three hands: Cyril  
Smith and Phyllis V - film suite:  
piano, CDSO under the  
composer)  
8.00 News  
8.05 Morning Concert (cont): Weber  
from Antonio in E minor,  
Op. 45: Anthony Halstead;  
Handover Band under  
Goodman; Ravel  
Gaspard de la nuit  
Orchestra under Toller;  
Walton (Henry V - film suite:  
piano, CDSO under the  
composer)  
9.00 News  
9.05 Festival 1991: The pianist  
Decar Rink plays Schubert  
(Sonata in A D 664); Lutz  
(Utrecht, S 208; En 1816, S  
207); Klavierspiel in F minor, S  
193; La lugubre Gondola No  
2, S 200; Wogenlied: In festo  
transfigurationis Domini nostri  
Jesu Christi; Impromptu  
Nocturne in F minor, S 191;  
Nephele Waltz No. 4, S 695;  
corps Philharmonie; Mephisto  
Polka; Mephisto Waltz No. 1,  
trans. Bormann  
9.05 Morning Concert: Gribic  
Bormann (Fantasy on Welsh  
Nursery Tunes; LSO under  
Groves); Gordon Jacob  
(Saxophone Quartet); Phoenix  
Saxophone Quartet; Holst  
(Suite No. 2 in F, Op. 28 No. 2  
London Wind Orchestra under  
Wick); Paul Patterson  
(Divisions for saxophone  
quartet); Stanford (Fish  
Rhapsody No. 4; Ulster  
Orchestra under Handley);  
James Rae (Tyneside  
folklore Suite for saxophone  
quartet); Buch (Scottish  
Fantasy; New Symphony  
Orchestra of London under  
Sargent); interspersed with  
Boothroyd folk song collages  
10.00 News  
10.05 Lunchtime Concert:  
Live from St George's,  
Brandon Hill, Bristol. Nash  
Ensemble; Antonio Prokofiev  
(Overture on Hebrew Themes,  
Op. 34); Shostakovich (Piano  
Quintet in G minor, Op. 57)

- TYNE TEES**  
As London except: 1.50-2.30 Gardening  
Time 5.10-5.40 Home and Away 6.00  
Northern Live 6.30-7.00 Country 10.40  
Merrie. With Children 11.10 Prisoner: Cell  
Block H 12.05 Film: Christine  
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CJN 2.05 News 2.15 News 2.15 News 2.15  
West 11 For You 3.05 Night Best 3.35  
champion 5.10-5.30 Jobfinder
- ULSTER**  
As London except: 1.50-2.30 News and  
Weather 5.10-5.40 Home and Away 6.00  
Northern Live 6.30-7.00 Country 10.40  
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Block H 12.05 Film: Christine  
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West 11 For You 3.05 Night Best 3.35  
champion 5.10-5.30 Jobfinder
- YORKSHIRE**  
As London except: 1.50-2.30 News and  
Weather 5.10-5.40 Home and Away 6.00  
Northern Live 6.30-7.00 Country 10.40  
Merrie. With Children 11.10 Prisoner: Cell  
Block H 12.05 Film: Christine  
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CJN 2.05 News 2.15 News 2.15 News 2.15  
West 11 For You 3.05 Night Best 3.35  
champion 5.10-5.30 Jobfinder

- RADIO 4**
- 6.00 On the Move (FM only)  
6.05am FM Forecast 6.10  
News Briefing 6.15  
Farming Today 6.25 Prayer for  
the Day (a) 6.30 Today, at  
7.00, 7.00, 8.00, 8.30 News  
7.55 Weather 8.00 News  
8.05 Weather 8.05 Weather  
in Parliament 8.58 Weather  
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